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A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire,
ESTABLISHED 1859.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all Countries having business relations with the British Empire is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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Not every business man appreciates to the full the many advantages of an occasional inset, well placed, in a trustworthy advertising medium. In the first place, an inset (in the Summer Issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, for instance) gives the advertiser an opportunity of using his own stock of advertising literature—circulars, price-lists, &c. Many firms connected with the drug-trade, pharmacy, and perfumery, make a point of producing beautiful coloured insets specially for distribution in *C. & D.* Special Issues. Why? Because experience has shown them that in the Summer and Winter Issues of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, insets are placed (1) only before buyers of their goods actually in business; (2) being bound in as part of the Issue, they are always available for reference; (3) the cost of distribution is much less than circular postage; (4) and they bring orders. The guaranteed circulation is 12,000, and the date of the Summer Issue is July 29. Write to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., for a copy of his Summer Issue booklet.

Summary of this Issue.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

National Insurance Bill.

This measure was read a second time on Monday evening. Mr. Lloyd George did not refer to chemists, and Mr. Glyn-Jones got no chance of speaking (p. 39).

Since then Mr. Glyn-Jones has arranged with the Chancellor of the Exchequer to receive a deputation representing pharmacists in Great Britain and Ireland, with the object of placing before him their objections to the proposals that directly affect the business. The deputation was received on Thursday afternoon (p. 48), and had a kindly and friendly reception.

Many Chemists' Associations throughout the country have held special meetings in regard to the Bill, and have passed resolutions condemning the drug provisions. We report these as fully as space permits (p. 41).

We again devote a special section of the issue to various facts and statements regarding the measure (p. 39). The whole issue might have been filled, for our suggestion of last week that "chemists must look lively" in the matter has been liberally acted upon.

Numerous letters discuss varied aspects of the subject (p. 61), and we again advise chemists to protest (individually and collectively) to their M.P.s, and to make the most of the Whitsuntide recess.

Mr. Glyn-Jones and Professor Greenish have gone to Germany, Austria, and Italy to investigate the systems of dispensing adopted there (p. 49). Full particulars of these were given in the *C. & D.*, May 6, 13, and 20.

Letters to Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones regarding the Bill should until June 14 be addressed to No. 17 Bloomsbury Square, London W.C.

Articles and News.

The cod-liver oil market is discussed in an article on p. 49.

Some further particulars of the new tuberculosis treatment are given on p. 37.

The Pass list of the Spectacle-makers' Company's May examination is given on p. 34.

The physical characters of the essential oil of *Fagara Xanthoxyloides* are given on p. 51.

The Incorporated Society of Pharmacy Proprietors is tightening up its conditions of entry (p. 64).

A tax on prescriptions is proposed in Austria so as to provide funds for pensioning medical men (p. 37).

The Committee which has charge of the Shops Bill reached Clause 13 last Tuesday, and then adjourned until June 15 (p. 45).

The Drug-trade Appeal Fund subscribers held their annual meeting on May 26, when it was reported that 67l. odd had been spent in law charges (p. 57).

A deputation has waited on the Financial Secretary to the Treasury in regard to the removal of the restrictions now in force upon the growing of tobacco and the use of nicotine for agri-horticultural purposes (p. 51).

The General Medical Council have removed from the Medical Register the name of a doctor who was in the employ of the Sandow Institute. The Council have also received a report from the Pharmacopœia Committee, and decided on a policy in regard to the National Insurance Bill (p. 55).

Xrayser reflects on the way the British Pharmaceutical Conference is replacing the Pharmaceutical Society in conferring with medical men regarding dispensing, the possibilities of the National Insurance Bill, the leisurely way in which the British Pharmacopœia is produced, and the question of medical preliminary examination (p. 47).

Trade and Market Matters.

In view of the Whitsuntide holidays business is slackening off, but there is a fair undercurrent of trading. Among the dearer products are pyrogallie acid, eserine, quillaia, and carbolic acid. German saltpetre, copper sulphate, and turpentine are cheaper. Quinine is firmer (p. 57).

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

The Mansfield Town Council have passed plans for new premises in Station Street, to be occupied by Mr. J. H. Collins, chemist and druggist.

A fire occurred on May 29 at the chemical works of Messrs. C. J. Schofield, Ltd., Ashton New Road, Clayton, Openshaw, Manchester. Owing to the heat a number of carboys of sulphuric acid burst.

A box of "Sparklets" in the window of the pharmacy of Mr. H. W. Woodward, chemist, 7 Bull Green, Halifax, exploded on May 29, owing to the intense heat of the sun. A portion of the bulb broke the large plate-glass window.

The following In Memoriam notice appeared in "The Times" of May 30:

CARTEIGHE.—To the dear memory of Michael Carteighe, who passed away at "Oriol," Goring-on-Thames, May 30, 1910.—JACK AND CONSTANCE.

We dare say many will recognise in this notification the kindly feeling of a popular young drug-trade leader and his wife, whom Mr. Carteighe was very fond of.

A "Business Exhibition" organised by the City of London Business Exhibition Co., held at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London, E.C., from May 29 to June 3 inclusive, will be of interest to our readers who have occasion to go in for circularising. The newest and quickest methods of letter-copying, addressing, closing, opening, stamping, or printing in imitation typewritten characters. Filing systems, paper-fasteners, envelope-feeders to typewriters, adding machines and calculators, are other interesting novelties or machines on view.

The Plymouth Weights and Measures Inspector states in his report that at some chemists' establishments a number of weights and measures of the metric system were found in use for trade purposes. Metric weights, numbering 108, and seven metric measures were thus found which were unstamped, and, as the office was not provided with local standards of that system, he was unable to comply with the request of the users to verify and stamp those, as required by law. The Inspector has requested the Council to supply the standards, and a standard balance to be used for this purpose exclusively.

Spectacle-makers' Company.

The following is the Pass List of the recent Examinations held in London:

H. Bartlett.	J. Hartley.	R. S. Lonsdale.
F. P. Beedle.	J. F. Harris (2nd prize).	A. W. F. McEwan (3rd prize).
W. J. Bateman.	A. E. Hayden.	T. O. Owens.
J. B. Cranmer.	G. T. Harvey.	C. J. C. Phillips.
H. Cowlin.	H. E. W. Ivey.	D. A. Rees, Ph.C.
W. B. Dow.	A. F. Jeffers.	S. C. Russell.
John Eymer (1st prize).	J. R. Jenkins.	E. Y. Stuckey.
S. H. Fry.	W. T. Keeling.	S. J. Stearn.
J. Forster.	S. Lowy.	A. Walker.
F. R. Gamble.	F. W. Lansdell.	W. H. A. Fincham.
A. Griffiths.		

The Arts Unbend.

A large and brilliant gathering of scientists and their friends took place on Tuesday evening, May 30, in the Natural History Museum, South Kensington. The occasion was a conversation given by the Royal Society of Arts, and many distinguished personages were present, including some of the visitors from overseas, the Portuguese Minister, Sir William Crookes, Judge Rentoul, and Mr. Walter F. Reid (President of the Society of Chemical Industry). The only direct representatives of pharmacy we noticed were Mr. G. Bult Francis (The British Drug Houses, Ltd.) and Mr. J. Cofman, but the rooms are so vast and the gathering was so large that it is quite possible other pharmacists were present.

Chemical Engineering Exhibition.

An exhibitors' dinner to celebrate the success of the exhibition took place at the Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C., on May 29. The chair was occupied by Mr. Edmund

White (2 St. Dunstan's Hill, E.C.), and among those present were Dr. Mullineux Walmley, Professor R. Meldola, Mr. H. Lorenz, Mr. C. Zimmermann, Mr. T. Tyrer, Mr. W. F. Reid, Mr. Berk, and Mr. F. W. Bridges. Mr. C. A. Mercer proposed the toast of "The Exhibition," to which Mr. Bridges replied. Mr. H. C. Batchelor proposed "Our Guests," and Professor Meldola, Mr. Reid, and Mr. Tyrer responded. The Chairman's health was proposed by Mr. Booth, and in reply Mr. White stated that he had been in the chemical-engineering business all his life. His father was connected with one of the oldest chemical-manufacturing businesses in London, and he himself was apprenticed to a firm of engineers. This made him able to appreciate the importance to chemical-manufacturers of a knowledge of the two professions.

An Outing.

A party of over thirty employees of Messrs. Bleasdale, Ltd., manufacturing chemists, had an enjoyable outing by char-à-banc to the charming little village of Kirkham Abbey on May 27. Kirkham Abbey is situated in the Derwent Valley, about fourteen miles from York. Several members of the party visited the pretty hamlet of Whitwell, while others visited the Abbey ruins. An excellent repast was served for tea, after which the company enjoyed strolls in the lovely woods, boating, or indulged in various games. The party arrived back in York shortly after 10.30 p.m., after spending one of the most enjoyable outings held in connection with the firm.

Poison-licences.

Mr. Arthur R. Collett, manager to Proffitt & Westwood, Ltd., 508 Bearwood Road, Smethwick, has applied for a poison-licence.

The renewal of poison-licences elicited an interesting discussion at the meeting of the Lancaster Town Council on May 31. Five licences had been issued on the recommendation of the Diseases of Animals Committee, and there had been further applications, but the committee refused to grant more or to license assistants. Two or three of the Councillors protested against certain firms having a monopoly. They should let all the applicants have a fair chance. Councillor Bland (Chairman of the committee) said the committee, after meeting a deputation from the Lancaster Chemists' Association, decided to confine the licences to the firms in question. The Town Clerk held that the committee had executive power to act in the matter, and that the discussion was out of order. This was combated, members asking why they should recommend the Council to do that which they had power to do themselves, but eventually the minutes were passed restricting the licences. The Chairman expressed the view that poisons should only be sold by pharmacists. They had really been generous to the five firms in question.

Contracts.

Poole Guardians.—Mr. H. Lewis, chemist, Poole, for water-beds, at 5*l.* each.

Exeter City Council.—Holman, Ham & Co., and Evans, Gadd & Co., Ltd., for the supply of drugs.

Yarmouth Guardians.—Mr. T. J. Woodcock, for the supply of absorbent wool at 11*d.* per lb., lint 1*s.* 6*d.*, boric lint 1*s.* 3*d.*, tenax 1*s.* 4*d.*, jacquette 1*s.* 10*d.* per yard, Gamgee tissue 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb., alembroth gauze 1*s.* 6*d.* per dozen yards, and tow 4*d.* per lb.

London County Council.—The Stores Committee recommend that the following tenders be accepted for photographic plates, paper and materials: W. Butcher & Sons, Ltd., 57*l.*; Houghtons, Ltd., 5*l.*; Hunters, Ltd., 40*l.*; Ilford, Ltd., 61*l.*; Newton & Co., 10*l.*; W. Watson & Sons, Ltd., 38*l.*; Wratten & Wainwright, Croydon, 32*l.*

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

The Stepney analyst states in his quarterly report that of eleven official samples of Bland's pills, seven were adulterated, five containing 8 to 12 per cent. of foreign mineral matter, while the remaining two were 5 per cent. deficient in carbonate of iron. Of sixteen other samples of Bland's pills, five were adulterated. A sample of camphorated oil was genuine.

The Staffordshire analyst reports that last quarter tincture of quinine was the only drug reported against, one

sample being 10 per cent. deficient in hydrochloride of quinine. The drug had apparently been made up according to the old Pharmacopœia. Other samples certified as genuine were: Arrowroot, camphorated oil, ginger, olive oil, ammoniated tincture of quinine, and tartaric acid.

The Middlesex analyst reports having examined the following informal samples during the past quarter: White precipitate ointment 42, olive oil 7, camphorated oil 5, eucalyptus oil 4, paregoric 4. Two samples of white precipitate ointment were 10 to 20 per cent. deficient in ammoniated mercury, and four contained 46.3 to 50 per cent. excess of ammoniated mercury, while another consisted of boric ointment. The remaining samples were genuine. A camphorated-oil sample was 12 per cent. deficient in camphor. The formal samples included: White precipitate ointment 6, prescriptions 12. Of the former, three were of inferior quality, while one of the latter was 25.9 per cent. deficient in boric acid.

Midland Notes.

The advent of Boots Ltd. to King's Heath has caused local pharmacists to "wake up," and extensive billing has started, quoted prices being remarkably low. It has also led to a desire to improve window-display.

Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. inform us that Mr. William McBride has resigned his position as their travelling representative. Mr. McBride is well known in the Midlands, and he carries with him the best wishes of the firm for his future.

The Greater Birmingham Act has brought into prominence the chief workers of the suburban boards, and amongst those whose photographs and careers appear in the press are Mr. F. Barlow, Ph.C., Balsall Heath, who is chairman of the King's Norton Board of Guardians.

Veterinary pharmacists are familiar with the feeding-bottle and teat for lambs, and will be interested to learn that on the farm at High Offley a lamb has been reared in this way, and although now grown up, the animal resolutely refuses to be comforted until supplied with the customary bottle of milk.

From Various Courts.

At Newbury, Berks, on May 26, Jesse Green Cox was committed for trial at the Assizes on a charge of uttering a forged cheque and thereby obtaining 14*l.* 6*s.* by false pretences from Hickman & Metcalf, chemists, of Newbury, on January 26 last.

At the Wilts Assizes, held at Salisbury on May 30, James Farquhar, medical practitioner, was found guilty of perjury (*C. & D.*, April 29, index folio 597). Accused pleaded guilty to perjury, but not to corrupt perjury. Lord Coleridge said that having regard to the fact that there was no corrupt motive, the accused would be bound over in his own recognisances in the sum of 50*l.*, and he must pay all costs.

At Dewsbury on May 23, Ethel Young, giving an address at 330 High Road, Brondesbury, London, was bound over and ordered to pay costs on a charge of obtaining money by false pretences. It was alleged that defendant called upon various persons in Dewsbury, stated that she was advertising a hair-wash for Boots Ltd., and that the preparation would cost only 2*d.* if purchased from her, but would cost 4*d.* if bought at the firm's shops. The contents of the packet were half an ounce of dry soap. Mr. F. W. Hollingworth, Boots' local manager, was one of the purchasers, and in his evidence he stated that defendant was in no way connected with the firm, who had nothing to do with "Drykwick," the preparation she was selling.

Cricket.

Burgoyne Burbidges C.C. v. British Drug Houses C.C.—This match, played at Wadham Lodge on May 27, resulted in a win for the former team by eighteen runs. Score: B.B., 74; B.D.H., 52. Gardner made 36 runs for the winners, and E. Sibley 18 for the losers.

The Sheffield Chemists' Cricket Club met a team representing the local Y.M.C.A. at Wadsley on May 25, the Chemists dismissing their opponents for 29, but themselves ran up a score of 84 runs for seven wickets. The Chemists' victory was largely due to the smart bowling of Firth and Meadows, who claimed six and three wickets respectively

at a cost of only 24 runs in all, and Meadows and Massey, who scored 23 and 19 runs respectively. The club will meet a team from Evan Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool, on the Derby County Ground at Chesterfield in a two-innings match during the Coronation celebrations.

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

The headquarters of the Dublin Centre of the Irish Chemists' Assistants' Association have been moved to the Central Hotel for the summer months.

At the exhibition and *fête* at Balls Bridge, Dublin, promoted by the Irish Women's National Health Association, are the following exhibitors: Hayes, Conyngham & Robinson, Ltd., Dublin; Harringtons, Ltd., Cork; and Smith & Sheppard, Dublin.

Francis Holmes, a vanman in the employment of the Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland, Dublin, was on May 27 committed for trial on a charge of embezzling money belonging to the Governors of the Hall. He is alleged to have altered dockets relating to carriage paid on goods to larger amounts than appeared on the counterfoils.

Messrs. Thompson, Blair, Elliott, and McCormick, of John Clarke & Co., Ltd., wholesale druggists, Belfast, have entered into a co-partnership to carry on the business, and have taken over from the liquidator the remainder of the lease of the premises 12-14 Corporation Street. The first three were travellers for the company and the last named a buyer.

At the annual show of the Ulster Agricultural Society in Belfast last week, Mr. Samuel Gibson, J.P., registered druggist, King Street, secured several successes in the dexter section. In the bull classes he had a first and third prize, and in the heifer section he had two seconds and a "commended" with his animals, which are bred on his stock farm at Summerhill, Dunmurry, near Belfast.

Personal.

Mr. A. S. McDowell, druggist, has given up his business at Beer's Bridge Road, Belfast.

Mr. W. J. Stevenson, Ph.C., has been appointed dispenser in the Belfast Union Infirmary and Hospital.

Mr. J. E. O'Neill, J.P., wholesale druggist, Maghera, has retained his seat for the Tubbermore division of the Londonderry County Council.

Mr. Richard Collis, Ph.C., has been elected one of the Poor Law Guardians of the North Dublin Union for the Glasnevin Division. Dr. J. C. McWalter headed the poll in the North City Ward.

Mr. J. E. Connor, J.P., Ph.C., Warrenpoint, has been appointed on the committee to draw up an address from the local Urban Council on the occasion of the visit of the King and Queen to Ireland in July.

The prompt action of Mr. John Robson, Ph.C., Belturbet, in attending to a lad whose leg was crushed by a railway waggon has been highly commended in the town. Mr. Robson afterwards conveyed the patient to the Infirmary.

At the annual meeting of the South Belfast Unionist Association on May 25, Mr. D. W. Elliott, Ph.C., Shaftesbury Square, Belfast, was elected on the central committee. Mr. Wm. McMullan registered druggist, Victoria Street, was elected a vice-president.

Guardians' Affairs.

The Local Government Board have informed the Macroom Guardians that the tender of Messrs. Sumner & Co. should have been accepted, as it was lower than that of the Cork Chemical & Drug Co. The Guardians, however, have asked to be allowed to accept the last-named tender on the score of convenience.

Owing to the liquidation of Messrs. J. Clarke & Co., Ltd., Belfast, the Local Government Board recommend the Scariff Guardians to give the medicine contract to Messrs. Sumner & Co., Liverpool. The Guardians in the meantime had

advertised for tenders, and as a result have accepted that of the Cork Chemical & Drug Co.

Private Meeting.

A meeting of the creditors of Alexander Kennedy, registered druggist, trading as H. B. McKinstry, 117 York Street, Belfast, was held at the offices of the Belfast Wholesale Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association on May 23. The creditors agreed that the debtor should sign a letter of authority to Mr. H. M. Crawford, Secretary to the above Association, to enable the estate to be realised and distributed *pro rata* amongst the creditors. The accounts show preferential creditors 6*l.*, and liabilities 207*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*, with assets (after deducting preferential claims) 40*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* The creditors include: Thos. McMullan & Co., Belfast (128*l.*); J. & J. Haslett, Ltd., Belfast (14*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*); Wm. Doig & Co., Belfast (6*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*); E. E. Jackson, Crediton (1*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*); A. Sanderson & Co., Ltd., Hull (5*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*); T. Howard Lloyd & Co., Leicester (5*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*); Ayrton, Saunders & Co., Ltd., Liverpool (4*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*); R. Blackie, London (2*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*); T. F. Bristol & Co., Ltd., London (2*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*); Camwal, Ltd., Manchester (5*l.* 5*s.*); D. & W. Gibbs, Ltd., Wapping (2*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*).

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

The old-established business of the late Mr. R. Sinclair, chemist and druggist, Invergordon, has been acquired by Miss Gilchrist, pharmacist.

Mr. Alexander Spence, chemist, Leslie, Fife, is to present each boy and girl attending Leslie public schools who takes part in the local Coronation procession on June 22 with nicely printed certificate bearing the name of the pupil and facsimiles of the signatures of the municipal and educational officials of Leslie.

Edinburgh.

It is confidently reported that St. Cuthbert's Co-operative Association, Ltd., intend opening a branch in the vicinity of Queen Street. Should this be the case, the "Store" will tap the wealthy West End of the city.

Mr. J. H. Taylor, representing Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., has left Edinburgh for Glasgow, and the latter city will now occupy all his attention, instead of, as formerly, only a part of it. Mr. Taylor is succeeded in Edinburgh by Mr. W. S. Sheppard, who has hitherto had his headquarters at Bristol, and Mr. F. Brooks and Mr. W. J. Savage will share the territory which Mr. Sheppard has covered.

In the trial in the High Court of Justiciary, Edinburgh, which began on May 29, when Lieutenant Cecil Aylmer Cameron and his wife were charged with having conceived a fraudulent scheme to obtain 6,500*l.*, the insurance on a pearl necklace, the first witness was John Stuart, chemist's assistant at Inman's Stores (now belonging to Boots Ltd.), outside which establishment the theft of the necklace was alleged to have taken place. Mr. Stuart deposed that he remembered Lieutenant Cameron coming into the shop about 6.15 on February 8 and asking for a hypodermic needle. He had been in the shop about a minute when a lady (Mrs. Cameron) came in. She was strikingly dressed, and he looked at her as she went to Lieutenant Cameron, who at once left the shop, saying, "Where, dear?" as he got to the door. The Solicitor-General: Was she at all perturbed?—Not in the slightest degree. There was no sign of fainting or staggering.—Andrew Paterson, another assistant, said the defendants, on returning to the shop, explained what had happened. Mrs. Cameron said she had lost her pearl necklace. A man had put his hand at the back of her neck and snatched it. She said its value was 8,000*l.* Lieutenant Cameron asked for the nearest police-station, and they left in company. The case is still proceeding.

Glasgow and the West.

Mr. George Orr, chemist, Dennistoun, has just returned from a trip to Canada.

With the advent of the "leafy month of June" and a continuance of delightful weather, coast and country chemists are getting busier, and will soon be in full swing. Incidentally, city chemists are looking out for *locum* men.

A pleasing function took place on Friday evening, May 26, at the office of Messrs. Cockburn & Co., Ltd., chemists, 130 Howard Street, when Miss Agnes Alexander was presented with a set of cutlery by the company and her fellow-employees on the occasion of her leaving to be married.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

ASPIRIN.—In view of the regulations controlling the introduction and sale of pharmaceutical specialities into France and the special regulations affecting the sale of the Farbenfabriken of Elberfeld Co.'s specialities, including "Aspirin," the company announce their intention of suspending the import of all their products into France.

THE DIAGNOSIS OF INFECTIOUS MALADIES.—The Official Municipal Bulletin of the City of Paris announces that the Bacteriological Laboratory of the city now places at the disposal of doctors and pharmacists the necessary receptacles when diagnosing for diphtheria and tuberculosis is required. The receptacles are supplied the day before they are needed, or even the same day, and the results of the analysis are reported as soon as possible after the sample for analysis is received, the time required being usually twenty-four hours. The Laboratory of Bacteriological Diagnosis of Infectious Maladies is at 1 bis rue des Hospitalières Saint Gervais, and is open from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. on weekdays and from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. on Sundays.

PARIS ASSISTANTS.—The propaganda committee of the Paris Syndicate of Assistant Pharmacists has issued an announcement to the effect that it is more resolved than ever "to secure nine o'clock as a general closing-hour, together with the organisation of a night service, indispensable to the needs of the Parisian population." Consequently a general meeting of assistants has been called for Tuesday evening, June 6. In the meanwhile the delegates of the Syndicate have been called upon to organise propaganda reunions as frequently as possible, and the committee is endeavouring to secure the support of the Paris Municipal Council for the purpose of organising night pharmacies in the various quarters of the city. It may be explained that nine o'clock closing is general already in the West-end as well as in most other quarters of Paris, but in the centre of the city a few pharmacists have steadily opposed the assistants' coercion. The recent severe comment in "Le Temps" on the effect of early closing is evidently not foreign to the assistants' revived interest in night pharmacies.

THE FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY.—There exists in Paris a useful society called the "Friends of the University," the object of which is to encourage research and to give financial aid to promising students and rising pharmacists, as well as to assist the various scientific laboratories of the University. The Society held its annual meeting a few evenings ago at the Sorbonne, with M. Raymond Poincaré, a distinguished *savant*, in the chair. Among various other assistance given by the Society during the past year the following were announced: M. Lanténos, of the Paris School of Pharmacy, has received a scholarship of 48*l.* for the purpose of visiting the principal German industrial centres, as well as to study the working of the chemical and scientific laboratories in several German universities. The Laboratory of Parasitology of the Faculty of Medicine has received financial assistance for the purpose of completing its microscopical collections. The laboratories of the Faculty of Sciences have been accorded 82*l.* for the purchase of instruments, and the Cryptogamy Laboratory of the School of Pharmacy receives 30*l.* for a similar purpose. M. Lyon-Caen, the eminent general secretary, modestly said that the Society was obliged to content itself with doing a little good each year until their financial resources permitted them to give more substantial aid to the University of Paris.

THE NEW TUBERCULOSIS TREATMENT.—"The Times" Paris correspondent, writing on May 23, gives the following extract from the paper of Drs. Bernheim and L. Dieupart (*C. & D.*, May 27, index folio 774) :

Szendeffy and his assistants experimented on the Koch bacilli—the common *coli bacillus*—with, first, the emanations of radium, second, radium as an element, and, third, other antiseptics combined with radium. First, a milligramme of radium barium chloride, covered with a sheet of mica, could not by its emanation alone prevent the culture of the bacilli. Secondly, with a watery solution of radium a great quantity of radiferous salt was necessary in order to hinder culture. Small quantities even when added directly to the bouillon of the culture had no effect. Thirdly, having already obtained an appreciable result with radio-active substances mixed with terpenes, we used for this third set of experiments some menthol-iodine, to the solution of which we added radium barium chloride. *In vitro* 5 to 6 centigrammes of this solution hindered the propagation of the resisting acido-bacilli.

Each, c.c. of the preparation is said to contain one ten-thousandth of a milligram of radium dissolved in a solution of ether mixed with oil. The correspondent says Dr. de Szendeffy considers Koch's bacillus as a "vulgar saprophyte which becomes virulent in a pre-disposed organism." The radio-menthol-iodine preparation is said to give remarkable results in relieving the "rales" (hard and rough breathing) of bronchitis. In regard to the "peptonised iodine" which baffled a pharmaceutical contemporary, Dr. Bernheim states :

We have in France many excellent preparations of peptone-iodine. In a thesis on the organic compounds of iodine, Dr. René Boulaire arrives at the interesting conclusion that the peptonates of iodine are the most easily assimilable and the least toxic, and that their toleration by the human organism is very great.

The radium barium chloride is not accurately designated, but seems to be on similar lines to that used by Caspari in 1903 in his experiments described in the "Berliner Medicinische Gesellschaft." The *rationale* of the treatment is given in the imperfect translation of the original as follows :

The radium barium chloride contained in solution adds itself to the emanation (of the peptonate of iodine with menthol) endowed with force and energy and powerfully bacteriocidal.

The new treatment has come in for much criticism in this country owing to its booming in the lay Press. The views expressed are all evidently based upon the preliminary note in "The Times" evidently communicated by a non-technical journalist.

RUSSIAN NEWS.

A NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES of the pharmaceutical, perfumery, and cosmetic branches and mineral-water concerns have come together with the intention of forming an association for the protection of their interests. The rules for this combination have already been put before the Russian Minister of Commerce.

APPRENTICESHIP REGULATIONS.—M. Stolypin, the Prime Minister, has framed a measure for regulating, according to the size of a business, the number of apprentices which a chemist may employ. Where not more than 10,000 prescriptions are dispensed per annum, only one apprentice may be employed. For every additional 10,000 prescriptions an additional apprentice may be taken until the number reaches five, which is the maximum that can be employed. There may not be more than two apprentices to one duly qualified chemist with the degree of Provisor, and it is further provided that if the Provisor leaves the service of the pharmacy the apprentices must leave unless another properly qualified chemist is engaged.

RUSSIAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY.—The Association for the Development of the Russian Chemical Industry held recently its first general meeting at St. Petersburg, at which nineteen chemical manufacturers were represented. The report and the accounts of the Organisation Committee were submitted and approved of, a sum having been provided to meet expenditure for the current year. Officers were elected by the Revision Commission. The Association has

pledged itself to promote and to support the efforts of the Organisation Committee for the development of the industry. The aims in view concern the railway transport of acids and other fluids, the revision of the railway tariffs for certain chemical products, new pharmaceutical regulations, and the protection of industrial enterprises, trade-marks, etc.

PLATINUM.—A new Bill has been introduced by the Russian Ministry of Commerce in connection with the platinum industry. According to this Bill the exports of raw platinum are to be prohibited. Platinum mining interests have to apply to the Russian Imperial Bank to secure advances in the same way as this is being done in the case of washed raw gold. There is a penalty fixed for any incorrect or fraudulent returns made of the quantities of the product secured, and for the withholding of same unless permission is obtained or declaration is made to do so. It is expected that the particulars for the regulation of the industry on that basis will shortly be submitted to the Duma. Hitherto Russian platinum has been marketed abroad in its raw condition for refining and manufacturing purposes, and Russia was therefore dependent on the foreign markets to secure an outlet. It has now been decided by the Russian Ministry of Commerce to create a Government Laboratory for the refining and the handling of Russian platinum.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN NEWS.

A PHARMACEUTICAL PRIZE.—According to "De Indische Mercur," the Faculty of Mathematical and Natural Science of the University of Leyden offers a prize for the best results obtained by anatomical research on at least ten of the East Indian plants or parts of plants mentioned in the fourth edition of the Dutch Pharmacopoeia. The materials selected for investigation must not have been fully examined previously.

AUSTRIAN PRESCRIPTION-TAX.—The necessity for making some kind of provision for old age or for dependants in the case of death of the bread-winner is being more and more acutely felt in circles outside the various compulsory schemes in force for the benefit of the "working" man. Thus the Austrian doctors have repeatedly discussed various proposals for founding a fund of this kind, and the latest and most popular proposition advanced is not without interest. It assumes the form of the inevitable prescription-tax, which has been brought into the field for all sorts of purposes, and the doctor will be forced to write out all his prescriptions on special formulars supplied to him through the various medical associations. These formulars will be prepared of a special kind of paper to prevent imitation, the idea being to use a kind of bank-note paper for this purpose, and each prescription will bear a stamp representing a tax of six, ten, or twenty hellers (halfpenny, penny, and twopence respectively). The doctor will pay the total amount of the tax on purchasing a book of prescription-forms from his association, and pharmacists are to be forbidden from dispensing any prescriptions not written on these official formulars. The author is modest enough to assume that every one of the 15,000 Austrian doctors need only write one prescription daily in order to collect annually a fund amounting to no less than 22,812*l.* 10*s.*, were one penny per form to be levied, with which something positive might be done; naturally a much higher sum would come in, as the doctor is forbidden to dispense his own medicines, and is therefore forced to write out prescriptions for his patients, upon whom the brunt of the cost of this form of self-insurance will fall, as the cost of the tax is to be defrayed by an increase of 3 to 5 per cent. on the fees. One great feature of this measure will be, in the author's opinion, the fact that it will tend to stamp out quackery, as only "official" prescription-forms may be filled by the pharmacist, and the quack will not be able to obtain a supply.

The exports of carnauba wax from Bahia during 1910 amounted to 182 tons, against 150 tons in 1909 and 57 tons in 1908.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

Cape of Good Hope.

ONE of the oldest wholesale drug-businesses in Cape Town is being converted into a Joint Stock Company. The promoters expect to raise the necessary capital locally.

PERSONAL.—Mr. W. Froembling, Ph.D., the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony, is to be presented with an address by the members for his unremitting labours in securing the repeal of the stamp tax.

BUSINESS CHANGE.—Mr. W. N. Cooper, chemist and druggist, West End, Kimberley, also Mafeking and Zeerust, has purchased the business previously owned by N. O. Ruffel, Ltd., at Hemming Street, Dutoitspan Road, Kimberley, and Mr. C. W. Austen has been appointed manager.

Natal.

PERSONAL.—Mr. W. H. Goodbrand has just been appointed manager of C. E. Forth's business in West Street, Durban. Mr. Goodbrand was for over eleven and a half years with Mr. S. K. Elgie, Gardiner Street, with whom he served his apprenticeship. He is Secretary of the Natal Pharmaceutical Society.

GLYCERIN FROM WHALE OIL.—The Durban correspondent of the "Cape Times" announces that Kynoch's glycerin factory at Durban has been shut down. As has been reported in the *C. & D.*, Kynochs recently erected a plant on the Bluff costing 20,000*l.* to manufacture glycerin from whale oil by the process known as "splitting." Nothing arose to suggest the unsuitability of the material until an explosion at the factory at the beginning of March, when a large charge of nitro-glycerin suddenly commenced to decompose, and then violently detonated. Investigation into various probable causes of the accident prompted examination of the glycerin. Analysis of the substance by the official chemists show considerable evidence of its containing organic elements derived from the animal oil, which have the effect of diminishing the chemical stability of the nitro-glycerin when manufactured, and this cause is suggested as possibly that which led to the recent explosion. The evidence on this point is somewhat contradictory, however, as Mr. J. P. Udall, the manager of the explosive works, writes to the Press saying:

"The statement made that glycerin made from whale oil at the Bluff is unsuitable for nitration purposes is opposed to the results we have obtained from, and to our researches on, this product, which have conclusively shown us that it gives as good and even better results, on stability tests made of the nitration products, than ordinary imported dynamite glycerin."

The machinery is being transported back to England, where the Durban whale oil will be treated for other purposes.

NATAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.—The monthly meeting was held at the rooms of Mr. G. Stuart Jones, Durban, on April 27. Messrs. Read (Chairman), Anderson, Hamlin, Dunkerton, Firth, Gale, and Goodbrand (Hon. Secretary) were present. The Secretary read a letter from the Cape Pharmaceutical Society, requesting the Natal Society to co-operate in the compilation of a list of poisoning cases to be placed before Government if occasion arises; and the Secretary was instructed to write to the Pharmacy Board, requesting them to furnish the Society with a list of poisoning cases during the last five years, the list to contain the names of the poisons, and by whom they were sold. The Secretary was also instructed to reply to the Cape Pharmaceutical Society, stating that this Society had the matter in hand, and would forward all information on receipt of same from the Pharmacy Board. The Secretary read the several minor alterations which had been made in the revision of the rules by the President and himself. Several alterations were made after a short discussion. The Secretary was instructed to have the rules printed and posted to all members of the Society before the annual meeting next month. Mr. Anderson reported

that the arsenite case had been before the Board. The Board petitioned the Government to appeal against the Magistrate's decision, and stated a case, which resulted in the decision being reversed. The Board had been requested by the Secretary for Native Affairs and Department of the Minister of the Interior to add potassium bichromate to the Poison Schedule, owing to the easy manner in which natives could procure this drug. The Board decided not to do so until information on cases of poisoning by the drug was obtained. The Pharmacy Board meeting will in future be held on the day after the Examination every quarter, instead of on the same day. Mr. Read reported a case of insobriety on the part of a chemist who was placed in charge of a shop, and thought that something should be done in the matter. He proposed, and Mr. Gale seconded, that the Secretary write to the Pharmacy Board, requesting them to move in the matter should any cases come under their notice. Mr. J. Oliff, of Messrs. Turner & Co., Durban, was elected a member of the Society.

Transvaal.

JOHANNESBURG has been indulging in an "All South African Week," promoted by the South African National Union. It was timed to correspond with the Agricultural Show which is annually held about Easter. The main idea was to induce business firms to show South



African manufactures in their windows and try to push the sale of locally made goods. Several chemists took part, and one of the most artistic of the windows was the display of Messrs. E. L. Ralling & Co., Carlton Hotel Buildings, Commissioner Street. The contents of the window—a photograph of which we reproduce—consisted principally of their own preparations and productions, such as coca-wine, cough-mixtures, tooth-powders, dental washes. There was also a good selection of Transvaal eucalyptus oil.

OUR GERMAN LETTER.

(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

Assistants' Insurance.—The Reichstag having accepted the Imperial Insurance Bill with but few material changes, pharmacists' assistants and apprentices in receipt of a salary not exceeding 80*l.* per annum will be subject to the insurance obligation. Pharmacists' assistants in receipt of a salary exceeding 80*l.*, but not exceeding 120*l.* per annum, may insure themselves voluntarily up to their fortieth year. Pharmacy proprietors not regularly employing any assistants, or not employing more than two assistants, may also insure up to their fortieth year.

Deutscher Apotheker Verein.—At the meeting of the Berlin section of the Deutscher Apotheker Verein on May 22, Dr. Salzmänn, referring to the Imperial Insurance scheme, expressed regret that the wishes of pharmacists should have been ignored to so large an extent. Referring to the abandonment by the Government of the scheme for a uniform settlement of the question of the tenure of pharmacies, Dr. Salzmänn described the Prussian proposals for levying a duty on concessional pharmacies with a view of buying out the saleable pharmacies as an unjustifiable tax, and pointed to the necessity for further efforts to obtain a universal system for the German Empire.

NATIONAL INSURANCE BILL.

More Facts and Statements.

THE BILL IN PARLIAMENT.

THE debate on the Second Reading of the Bill was resumed in the House of Commons on Monday afternoon, May 29, by Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, who pleaded for the fairest treatment for medical men, and for allowing each insured person to have his own doctor. He considered the Bill superficial. Mr. Austen Chamberlain followed, but said nothing about Clause 14. The Chancellor of the Exchequer spoke after him for fully an hour. A considerable part of his speech was devoted to a reply to medical criticisms, as to which he said:

"The first criticism made by medical men had reference to the capitation grant. They objected to the amount of the grant; and some of them objected to the grant altogether. Secondly, they said that the capitation included for the first time all the bad lives. The third criticism was that there was no free choice of doctors. The fourth was that they were placed under the heel of the friendly societies. Fifthly, they objected to the income limit of the insured person. The doctors proceeded with their criticisms on five assumptions—all of them erroneous. They proceeded on the assumption that the Government had fixed the capitation grant—they had not; that the amount of the capitation grant was to be fixed by the friendly society without any appeal to anybody—that was not the Bill; one assumption was that in that capitation grant families were included—they were not; another assumption was that the system of club doctors was to be made universal, and no free choice allowed—that was not the Bill; and the last assumption was that all the bad cases were included in the capitation grant—they were not. The five main assumptions on which the whole of this agitation had been based were absolutely erroneous; they had absolutely nothing to do with the Bill."

The Chancellor proceeded to quote sub-clauses 1 and 29, Clause 14, submitting that it includes free choice of doctor, and added that at present doctors accept 2s. 6d. per head from societies, that including drugs as well as attendance, and he quoted the figures collected in 1903 by the British Medical Association in regard to club payments, when it was found that in 135 cases payment was between 2s. and 3s. per head per annum, including drugs; 256 cases between 3s. and 4s.; 864 cases of 4s. and under 5s.; and only 386 cases above 5s. per head. The majority of the doctors who participated in that inquiry suggested 4s. or 5s. per head, a few said 6s. The man who could raise the fee for them to 5s. would have been a hero. "I have arranged 6s.," added the Chancellor, "and I am a villain"—a remark which was received with loud laughter and cheers. Replying to Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, he said he was with him to a certain extent, but he warned the House that here they had vast interests which were at cross purposes, for they had thousands of doctors who were club doctors. In some cases it was a valuable practice, and if they allowed a free choice of doctors they would be cutting into very valuable vested interests. Instead also of being under the control of the friendly societies they would have an appeal to the Health Commissioners, and no contract could be entered into which was not satisfactory to them. The debate was continued by Mr. Steel Maitland, Mr. Chiozza Money, Mr. Goldman, Sir George White, Lord H. Cavendish Bentinck, and Sir Alfred Mond, Bart., but not a word was said about chemists up to 11 o'clock, when Mr. Asquith moved the closure. Mr. Glyn-Jones expected to speak, but he was singularly unsuccessful in his efforts to "catch the Speaker's eye" last week, or that of his successor in the chair on Monday, when Mr. Lowther, on medical advice, had left for Marienbad. Mr. Glyn-Jones sat for many hours on both days in the Chamber in the hope of being able to speak on the medical and pharmaceutical aspect of the Bill, but without success, the number of members who had handed in their names to the occupant of the chair being very large. For this reason the hon. member voted against the closure, among the fifty or more others who were in the same lobby being Sir F. Banbury, Dr. A. P. Hillier, Sir P. Magnus, Mr. P.

Snowden, and Viscount Wolmer, the tellers for the "Noes" being Mr. Bottomley and Mr. Wedgwood.

CHEMISTS AND THE BILL.

The following queries, deduced from the articles which appeared in the *C. & D.* up to May 20, were submitted to the Chancellor of the Exchequer by our Parliamentary representative:

If, under the Bill, there will be an official medicine tariff, as in Germany, standardising the charges for dispensing?

If there will be periodical analytical examinations to see that the quality of the drugs is maintained?

Will modifications be made in the Bill so far as chemists and druggists are concerned?

The Reichstag is considering a Bill providing that contracts between a sick club and a pharmacy shall be submitted to all other pharmacists in the district, and, if no objection is taken, all are to be equally entitled to dispense for the club. Will this practice be proposed in England?

Many German States compel pharmacists to grant 10 or 15 per cent. rebate on the total charge of the prescription for members of such clubs. Will this also be adopted?

The following reply has been received from the Chancellor of the Exchequer's private secretary:

"Treasury Chambers,

"Whitehall, S.W.

"May 25, 1911.

"Dear Sir,—I am desired by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th May, and to state that the detailed arrangements as to medical treatment will be left to the Societies and Health Committees administering the benefits of the State Scheme.

"The arrangements, however, will be subject to the approval of the Insurance Commissioners, and Mr. Lloyd George considers it undesirable, if not quite impracticable, to tie the hands of those Commissioners by any definite provisions being incorporated in the Bill.

"Yours faithfully,

"JOHN ROWLAND."

QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Commons on Monday, Mr. Ashton asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether approved friendly societies, under the National Insurance Bill, which now make use of medical institutes supported by a combination of friendly societies to provide their medical benefits, will still be able to make use of those medical institutes and support them out of their funds?—Mr. Lloyd George replied that the reply was in the affirmative.

Viscount Wolmer asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the House of Commons on Monday, May 29, whether the health committees to be constituted under the National Insurance Bill will have power to purchase drugs wholesale to supply doctors and patients; and, if so, what provision will be made for those chemists who will thereby be ruined?—Mr. Lloyd George replied that the health committees and approved societies retained under the Bill the same freedom as friendly societies at present have in regard to the supply of drugs. He believed that chemists must necessarily profit largely by the provisions of the Bill.

Viscount Wolmer asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Wednesday, May 30, how small chemists could benefit under the National Insurance Bill if health committees are to buy drugs wholesale and give them out to doctors and patients.—The Chancellor said, in reply, that he had no reason to believe that health committees will buy drugs wholesale and dole them out to doctors and patients.

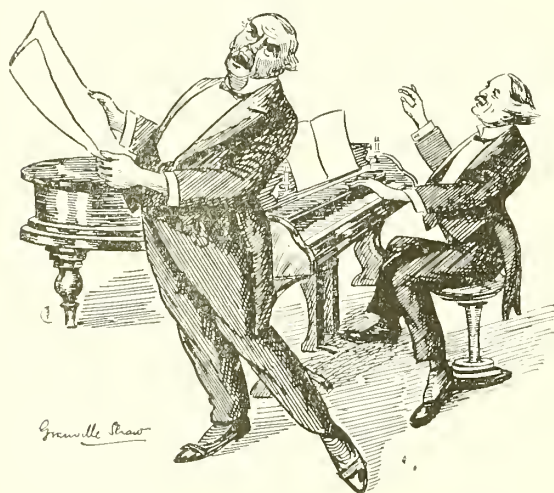
Sir G. White asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Monday whether Clause 44 (part 2) of the Bill would give health committees power to advocate vaccination out of public money by means of lectures or any other methods?—Mr. Lloyd George replied that paragraph 2 of Clause 44 (1) enables the Local Health Committee to make provision for the giving of lectures and the publication of information relating to health as it thought necessary or desirable.

Mr. Hodge also asked whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer had considered the desirability of allowing insured persons under the scheme to retain their own doctors, subject to the provisions of Clause 14?—The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a written communication to the hon. member, after referring him to the full statement which he made in the House of Commons on Monday, states that in the actuarial calculations the same sum was allocated to medical attendance for the Post Office contributors as for others, and power is given under Clause 14 to the Local Health Committee to supplement this, with the consent of the Treasury and the County Councils or County Borough Councils, from the Exchequer and from local rates.

On Thursday Mr. Astor asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer what the amount of fees paid to doctors under the German Insurance Acts is, and whether such fees include the payment of drugs.

At the same time Major White asked the Chancellor whether he has received any communications from Associations of Medical Herbalists with regard to the National Insurance Bill; and whether he is prepared to give any facilities under the Bill to those insured persons who prefer to undergo herbalist treatment rather than that of the ordinary medical practitioner.

The replies to these two questions were not to hand at the time of going to press.



The Pharmacists' Good-bye.

(After Tosti.)

[In quires and places where they sing this should be rendered with much feeling.]

Falling prices, fading fee,
 "Lines" sent thick from Germanie;
 Profits *nil*—for you and me,
 Profits *nil*—for you and me.
 Cutter-hawk, still on the fly,
 Hovers round in a silvern sky.
 Good-bye, profit, good-bye, good-bye;
 Good-bye, profit, good-bye, good-bye.

Hush! a Voice Westminster way,
 "Wait and See" it seems to say;
 "Worse will To-morrow be than To-day,
 Worse will To-morrow be than To-day."
 The Shop is closed, the till is dry,
 The Friendlies laugh, and the Chemists cry,
 "Good-bye, brother, Good-bye, good-bye;
 Good-bye, brother, Good-bye, good-bye."

What do we hope for, fluttering heart?
 Dear Dispensing and we must part,
 Killed by a State Insurance dart.
 What do we wait for, you and I?
 But an Old-Age Pension e'er we die.
 Good-bye for ever, Good-bye for ever,
 Good-bye, Good-bye.

CHEMISTS' OPINIONS.

Not only among chemists, but also in the medical profession in Edinburgh (writes our correspondent), has the Bill created something akin to consternation and a determination to band themselves together to get the provisions as affecting them made more favourable. A meeting of medical men in Edinburgh and the South-Eastern Counties of Scotland has been held in the Students' Union, Edinburgh, which was attended by about 500 members of the profession. The purpose of the meeting was to consider what action should be taken, and the result was the framing of the general policy on which they should act. Resolutions were adopted condemning the provisions whereby the control of medical benefits should be in the hands of the Friendly Societies and in favour of the raising of the scale of remuneration for medical services, and there was a strong feeling expressed that they should agitate for a reduction of the wage limit mentioned in the Bill.

A meeting of the General Purposes Committee of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society has been held, and information is being collected and the opinion of chemists obtained as to the effect of the Bill upon them. A much larger proportion of the population in Scotland will be affected by the Bill than in England. There appears to be a strong feeling that there is great risk of it not turning out to the advantage of Scottish pharmacists. The Chancellor's rosy picture of the ideal conditions prevailing in Scotland for the supply of medicines does not apply; indeed, the conditions are considered to be unsatisfactory. There is a strong feeling that a deputation of Scottish pharmacists should interview the Chancellor of the Exchequer and also the President of the Local Government Board. The Council of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association has held two meetings since the Bill was introduced. At the first nothing was done, in reference to the Pharmaceutical Society; but on the receipt of the Registrar's letter another was called on May 30, with the object of drawing up a strongly worded protest to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and local M.Ps.

Sir Wm. Baxter, D.L., President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, interviewed by a representative of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, said that his view as to the position in which chemists will be placed under the Bill is that an amendment in some of the sub-sections will be necessary to protect dispensing chemists, so that dispensing will be done by the chemists and *not* by prescribers. This would be in harmony with the principle laid down in section 14 sub-section 2. Prices could easily be arranged on a basis of cost with an agreed percentage for dispensing, as Germany does at the present time. Should the Bill remain unamended on such lines, then every voluntary contributor becomes a distinct loss to the chemist's trade—a trade for which a strict educational course has to be gone through to protect the public in pharmacy, and for which at least four years' service (including the attendance at lectures, etc.), is demanded by the Pharmacy Act (Ireland). It would, he continued, inflict a great injustice to pharmaceutical chemists in several towns and in an industrial centre like Belfast. This we must endeavour to prevent, but, he added, in all matters that have been brought before the Chancellor of the Exchequer that tend to injustice in administration, no one is more conciliatory than he has proved himself to be in similar circumstances.

Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, Ph.C., interviewed by a representative of the "Sheffield Telegraph," said it is not clear what the position of the pharmacist was to be under the National Insurance Scheme. On the face of it, friendly societies and health committees are apparently to make provision for the supply of drugs and medicines to insured persons. "If this is so," remarked Mr. Newsholme, "it is open to grave objection from the pharmacists' point of view. In my opinion Clause 14 should be amended so as to prevent the supply and dispensing of medicines by unqualified persons. There can be no two opinions as to the desirability of the supply and dispensing of medicines being in the hands of properly trained and qualified persons, and, in my opinion, it should be

open to every registered chemist to be in the position to supply and dispense the necessary medicines to insured persons, and a uniform scale for such services should be fixed by the Government."

A postcard came to us from Plymouth on May 27, which we reproduce in reduced facsimile:

*Sweating of Chemists !!!
are you aware that you will soon
be sweated by law? are you con-
-tent in dumb silence to be forced
to accept payment at the rate
of 1/6 a year for drugs dressings,
insured men's hands & add'l!!
Is it not better like the doctors
to squeal. Squeal loud at once,
silence means slavery & ruin,*

We presume that it is addressed to chemists. There is no indication of who has issued the card.

PRESS OPINIONS

on the position of chemists are beginning to be printed. The following paragraph from the "Daily News" is a fair example:

A deputation is to wait upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to place the views of pharmacists before him in reference to the national insurance scheme. A special committee of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, which has been appointed to consider the scheme as it affects the sale of drugs and the dispensing of medicines, is acting through its Parliamentary Secretary (Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P.). At present the Bill does not secure that the dispensing of medicines shall be done by qualified persons, and pharmacists are desirous of impressing upon the Chancellor the desirability of amending the Bill so as to provide that the supply of drugs under the proposed scheme shall be in the hands of pharmacists in business.

The "Birmingham Post" prints the same paragraph with this addition:

They also object to payment on a capitation basis, as there were no data on which such payment could be fixed, and they suggest that an official schedule of prices should be drawn up on the basis of which medicines should be supplied to insurance patients through any pharmacist, and not by selected pharmacists. It is suggested that if the Bill passes in its present form the effect upon large numbers of pharmacists in working-class districts will be disastrous.

Apparently, these statements have been circulated by a Press agency. The "Bradford Daily Argus," in an editorial note, refers to "The Times" correspondent's observations which we reprinted last week. Chemists are also writing to their local newspapers protesting against the Bill, and we desire to acknowledge copies received from several subscribers.

CHEMISTS' SPECIAL MEETINGS.

For convenience we place here reports of meetings of local associations at most of which the Bill was discussed and resolutions passed.

Dover Chemists' Association.—A meeting was held at Townwall Street on May 29 to discuss the Bill. Messrs. Cuff, Brown, Forster, Cartwright, Craig, Thompson, Ewen, Ewell, jun., Grover, Humbrook, and Mr. Stainer (Folkestone) were present. The Bill was well discussed, and a resolution deploring the probable loss of trade and hoping that this dispensing would be kept in pharmaceutical hands was passed and ordered to be sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Wyndham, and the Pharmaceutical Society.

Dundee Pharmacists' Association.—A meeting was held on May 23, at which the *National Insurance Scheme* was discussed. The following resolutions were passed unanimously:

"That the friendly societies should not have the control of, or the power to bargain for, the dispensing of medicines, the

supplying of drugs, or any medical or surgical dressings or appliances.

"That pharmacists should have two representatives on the local health committees.

"That the dispensing of medicines should only be done by registered pharmacists in business.

"That all medicines and medical and surgical appliances should be charged according to a fixed schedule of prices agreed upon by the Insurance Commissioners."

Midland Pharmaceutical Association.—A meeting of the Council was held at the University on May 31, Mr. W. Corfield (President) in the chair. A discussion took place on the *National Insurance Bill*, and the following resolution was passed:

"That the Council of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association heartily supports the principle of Clause XIV. of the *National Insurance Bill* in so far as it provides that prescribing and dispensing shall be kept separate, and regards it as imperative that the dispensing shall be done by qualified pharmacists, and that the patient shall be allowed perfect freedom in the choice as to where the medicine is to be obtained."

Thames Valley Pharmacists' Association.—The annual meeting took place at Kingston on May 26, Mr. Clement in the chair. The Secretary (Mr. W. Pecke) read the *Annual Report*, in which he particularly referred to the success of the social side of the Association. The Treasurer (Mr. A. Higgs, J.P.) presented the *Accounts* for the year, which showed a good balance in hand. A discussion took place regarding the *Launch Trip*. The feeling of the meeting seemed to be in favour of a half-day's trip, and it was left to Messrs. Higgs, Harvey, and Clement to decide. The *National Insurance Bill* then came under discussion, and a resolution was passed which is to be sent to the local Members of Parliament and Mr. Lloyd George. The election of the new officers was postponed.

Glamorgan Valleys Chemists' Association.—At a meeting of this Association held at Pontypridd on May 25, Mr. R. P. Rees presiding, the *National Insurance Bill* was discussed. The following resolution was passed: "That this meeting of the Glamorgan Valleys Chemists' Association, comprising the chemists of Pontypridd, Merthyr, Aberdare, and Rhondda Valleys, urge upon the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society to watch carefully the interests of chemists as affected by the *National Insurance Bill* now before Parliament; they also suggest that a scale of charges for medicine should be included in the Bill; that they endeavour to get pharmacy represented on the local health committees in the same manner as the medical profession and interested members of friendly societies; also that they invite the opinions of other chemists' associations with a view to united action."

North Kent Pharmacists' Association.—The annual general meeting was held at Mr. A. A. Gillitt's Medical Hall Rooms, on May 31, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, J.P. (President), in the chair. The other members present were Mr. A. J. Wing (Vice-President), Mr. A. Stooke (Hon. Treasurer), Messrs. T. W. Ostle, R. T. Clarke, T. Chesterfield, E. Millhouse, and A. Gillitt. The President read the eighth *Annual Report*, which expressed regret for the diminution in the number of members. The *Balance-sheet* was satisfactory, and shows a balance in hand of 19s. Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, J.P. (Gravesend), was unanimously re-elected *President*; Messrs. A. Goldthorpe and A. J. Wing, *Vice-Presidents*; Mr. A. Stooke (Gillingham), *Hon. Treasurer*; and Mr. J. E. French (Sittingbourne), *Hon. Secretary*. The *Committee* elected were Messrs. T. Chesterfield, R. T. Clarke, W. E. Goff, A. A. Gillitt, A. W. Hanson, E. Millhouse, A. W. Ryder.

Hastings, St. Leonards and District.—A meeting of the chemists of these places was held at the Town Hall, Hastings, on May 30, to consider the *Insurance Bill* now before Parliament, when the following were present: Messrs. Charles A. Tharle, H. C. Edwards, A. E. Bolshaw, H. Ewbank Smith, E. W. Geary, F. W. Goodman, F. Rossiter, K. H. Emeleus, H. Percy Weavers, Harold E. Skyrme, John Smith, Alfred W. Willmott, Thos. D. Vint, S. H. Gould, H. F. Spouse, W. Geo. Powell, Fredk. Tree, and James Williams. The following resolution was unanimously passed:

"We, the chemists of Hastings, St. Leonards and District, in considering the *National Insurance Bill* now before Parliament, are heartily in support of the principle that the medical man should prescribe and that the chemist should dispense the medicines, as suggested in the Bill, but we earnestly hope that the dispensing of medicines and the supply of drugs be solely entrusted to registered chemists in business at the choice of the patient, and that a schedule of charges be included in the Bill."

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.—A special general meeting was held at the Victoria Hotel on the

evening of Wednesday, May 24, to consider and discuss the National Insurance Bill in so far as it concerns chemists. There was a good muster, and Mr. J. C. Kidd presided. Mr. J. Rymer Young explained the position. A lively discussion ensued, and the following resolution, moved by Mr. Harry Kemp and seconded by Mr. Wilkinson, was adopted:

"That this meeting views with concern the uncertain position of pharmacists in the National Insurance Bill now before Parliament, and respectfully urges the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society to offer to the Government advice which, whilst assuring the proper protection of the public in all that relates to the dispensing of medicines, at the same time safeguards the freedom and rights of the individual pharmacist."

Mr. Kemp, on moving his resolution, was accorded a hearty reception by the meeting after an enforced absence of two and a half years. The Secretary was instructed to answer the B.P.C. questions about secret remedies.

Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association.—

The annual meeting was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Tuesday evening, May 30, Mr. T. Stephenson, Ph.C., in the chair. After the formal annual business was transacted, the reports showing the Association to be prosperous, and other matters attended to, the *National Insurance Bill* was discussed, and it was resolved to endorse the action of the committee with regard to the Bill, and to support the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society and the Executive in Scotland in any action taken to safeguard the interests of pharmacists; also that a letter be sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the President of the Local Government Board embodying the views of the Association on the question. It was further resolved to hold a meeting of registered chemists in the district on an early date to discuss the situation created by the Bill. Mr. Stephenson was re-elected Chairman, Mr. A. Currie Vice-Chairman, Mr. Rowland, 7 Castle Street, Edinburgh, Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. Somerville Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. J. S. Heddle Assistant Secretary. The Committee was reappointed, Mr. Adam Duncan taking the place of Mr. D. W. Nicholson.

Bradford Chemists' Association.—A special meeting of chemists carrying on business in Bradford was held at the Royal Hotel on Tuesday evening, May 30. Mr. M. Firth presided over a large attendance. The *National Insurance Bill* was considered, and after a lengthy discussion the following resolution was adopted, on the motion of Mr. D. S. Priestley, seconded by Mr. L. B. Sutcliffe:

"That this meeting of registered chemists in Bradford and district, while approving of the principles of the National Insurance Bill, regrets that no provision has been made for confining the dispensing and supplying of medicines, as defined in Clause 14, to qualified chemists—the only men trained to do the work and examined as to their capability—and calls on the Government to give them such recognition and to fix a definite scale of charges in the Bill; also that chemists shall be directly represented on the local health committee, and that all insured persons may have medicines dispensed and supplied by any registered chemist."

Copies of the resolution are to be forwarded to the Chancellor and the M.P.s for Bradford, Shipley, Pudsey, and Keighley. A small deputation was appointed to wait upon such local Members of Parliament as could be seen, with a view to pressing their claims upon them.

Sunderland Pharmaceutical Association.—A Council-meeting was held at the Grand Hotel, Bridge Street, on May 30, when the following were present: Messrs. W. Nimmo (President), R. Anderson (Vice-President), C. Hodgson (Treasurer), C. Ranken, G. P. Fairman, E. R. Cherrett, J. Mitchinson, R. H. Bell, R. C. Thursfield, and the Secretary (A. H. M. Purse). Alderman Harrison was present by invitation. A discussion was opened on the *National Insurance Bill*, and in regard to the communication from the Pharmaceutical Society it was agreed to wait until after the Society's Council-meeting before interviewing Members of Parliament, when Mr. Harrison will be able to give definite indications of the Society's policy. Mr. C. Ranken drew attention to the recommendations of the General Medical Council, especially that the drugs and medicines should be of the standard required by the British Pharmacopoeia, and that the dispensing of prescriptions should be carried out by qualified persons. Mr. Ranken thought this recommendation distinctly acted in favour of chemists, and Mr. R. Anderson regarded it as a very strong point indeed in favour of the supply of medicines being placed in the hands of pharmacists. Alderman Harrison promised to place this view before the Council. *Coronation Holidays* was next discussed. It was decided to close all day Coronation Day and a half-day Race Wednesday.

roydon Pharmacists' Association.—An enthusiastic meeting of this Association was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, on May 31, with the President, Mr. H. Paget Mat-

thews in the chair. Several long discussions ensued on vital points connected with the *National Insurance Bill*, and the following resolutions embodying these were framed:

That in the opinion of this Association the following points should be urged upon those who are responsible for the *National Insurance Bill*:

- (1). That the word registered chemist be inserted in Paragraph 2 of Section 14, so that all dispensing under the Act be performed by pharmacists only.
- (2). That a schedule of prices be arranged with the local Health Committee and not to be left to be bargained for with Friendly Societies, and that pharmacists should be directly represented on local Health Committees.
- (3). That there be a free choice of pharmacists to whom insured persons can take prescriptions given by their medical man.

The resolutions are to be sent to the General Medical Council, British Medical Association, and to the Pharmaceutical Associations. The trend of the meeting showed that members were fully alive to the serious position in which chemists would be placed if the Bill passed without some such amendments.

North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association.—

A special general meeting was held at the White Bull Hotel, Blackburn, on Tuesday evening, May 30, Ald. Shorrocks, J.P. (Darwen), presiding over a good attendance. Consideration of the *National Insurance Scheme* was the object of the meeting, and Mr. R. L. Gifford, J.P., was asked to express his views. This he did, and emphasised five claims: first, that the service of the chemist should be of a personal character as must be the emoluments—that was, the chemist should be paid for his work precisely in the same way as the doctor would be paid; second, that the practice of dispensing should be confined to pharmacists established in business; third, that chemists should have representation on the Health Committees; fourth, that the prices to be charged should be arranged by Health Committees, or the Government, and not by Friendly Societies; fifth, that patients should have a free choice of pharmacists for dispensing purposes as they would have of doctors. He thought these five claims summarised the position chemists might take up regarding this Bill. The discussion was continued by Messrs. E. Highton, T. A. Ward, Holden, Lomax, and Aspinall. Mr. Gifford said he had received a communication from Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P., who remarked that it looked as if the Bill would have a tremendous effect on chemists, and said he would be glad to hear views on any point which might arise. Sir Henry Norman, M.P., replied in a similar strain. The question was discussed further, and eventually it was thought desirable to await developments before passing a definite resolution.

Blackpool and Fylde Pharmacists' Association.—

A special meeting was held at Blackpool on May 26, with Mr. H. P. Withers (President) in the chair. A discussion took place on the *National Insurance Bill* as far as it affects chemists. The resolutions passed were as follows:

"That prescriptions written by medical practitioners under the National Insurance Bill shall only be dispensed by, or under the immediate supervision of, a pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist, and that a pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist shall not supervise the dispensing of prescriptions by more than two unqualified dispensers at the same time.

"That patients shall be at liberty to have their prescriptions dispensed only by a pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist of their own selection, and that medical practitioners be forbidden to recommend any particular pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist in preference to another or others.

"That the remuneration paid for medicines and dispensing and for medical requisites shall be paid on each article supplied, and such remuneration shall be in accordance with a scale, or scales, of prices, which shall be drawn up by a committee formed of an equal number of representatives of the Government Departments charged with the administration of the Act and of the Pharmaceutical Society, together with a chairman."

Further resolutions to be sent to Members of Parliament suggested that the limits of compulsory insurance for medical benefits be reduced to the wage-earner of 25s. per week, that payment be for medicine supplied, and not by a capitation fee, and that patients should have the sole choice of medicine-supplier.

Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association.—A special meeting was held on Thursday, May 25, for consideration of the *National Insurance Bill* as it affects the practice of pharmacy. Mr. David Anderson, President, presided over a large attendance. The discussion was lively and of great interest, and ultimately the meeting resolved that the following points must be made in the interests of the craft, viz.:

(1) That only duly qualified and registered pharmacists should dispense the medicines.

(2) That a fixed tariff (*à la* Germany) for the prices of medicines should be got, arranged with the Government and incorporated in the Bill, so that any registered pharmacist could supply the medicines, thereby maintaining the freedom of the insured to select his own pharmacist and thereby maintaining the present distribution of the work. This arrangement would undoubtedly operate in the best interests of the State, the insured, and the chemist.

(3) That Clause 14, Section 2, should be altered to read:

The local health committees shall make provision with duly qualified and registered pharmacists for the supply of proper and sufficient drugs, medicines, disinfectants, medical and surgical appliances and dressings to insured persons, etc.

(4) That provision be made for a representation of two pharmacists on the local health committees.

It was agreed that these provisions were of vital importance to pharmacists, and that no effort should be spared to have them adopted. It was therefore recommended that an arrangement should be made, if possible through the North British Executive of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, for a deputation thoroughly representative of Scottish pharmacy (representatives of Associations where possible) to wait on the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the President of the Local Government Board thereat.

Exeter Association of Pharmacists.—A meeting was held on May 29 at the residence of Mr. D. Reid (President). There were also present Messrs. P. F. Rowsell, J. Harris, H. Wippell Gadd, T. C. Milton, F. W. Vinden, and C. Sloman. The first business was the consideration of a communication from the British Pharmaceutical Conference regarding the sale of *secret* and *proprietary* medicines. It was considered that in place of declaring the composition of a medicine on the label some reference to a standard book of formulae would suffice. The meeting then discussed at some length the *National Insurance Bill*, especially in regard to amending Clause 14. Mr. Rowsell said the clause represented a turning-point in pharmacy. Mr. Vinden said the State has given chemists nothing in return for qualifying except the sale of poisons, which is not worth the flip of the fingers. Mr. Harris hoped that Mr. Lloyd George would study the German medicine tariff. Mr. Wippell Gadd said that if dispensaries were set up unqualified men could be employed, and such places would be outside the scope of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and the Weights and Measures Act. The following amendment of Clause 14 (2) was suggested, and was ordered to be sent to the local Member of Parliament with a covering letter explaining the position of chemists:

"Every such society or committee shall also make arrangements with the duly qualified pharmacists keeping open shop within the meaning of the Pharmacy Acts in the locality administered by the society or committee for the supply of proper and sufficient drugs and medicines to insured persons at prices to be fixed periodically by the Insurance Commissioners, and no arrangements shall be made with a medical practitioner under which he is bound or agrees to provide drugs or medicines for any insured persons without the consent of the Insurance Commissioners, which consent they shall not give unless the circumstances of any locality situated in a rural district are such as to make it expedient to do so."

Amendments of Clauses 42 and 43 were also suggested with a view to providing for pharmaceutical representation upon the advisory committee and the local health committees respectively.

Fifeshire Pharmaceutical Association.—A special meeting was held at Thornton on May 31 to discuss the provisions of the National Insurance Bill relating to pharmacy. Mr. David Gilmour, Dunfermline, presided over a record gathering. Mr. Charles Stewart (secretary) stated that circulars had been issued to all the registered pharmacists in business in Fife and Kinross (see last week's *C. & D.*). Seventy-six had been issued and replies supporting the action of the Association had been received from sixty-seven, and practically all the others were accounted for. The President, after expressing the satisfaction of the Council at the gratifying response to their appeal, briefly referred to the grave position in which pharmacists were placed by the Bill, and stated that Mr. David Storrar had drafted a series of resolutions, and called upon him to bring them before the meeting. These were in four sections, viz.:

(1) That the main principles of the Bill as to State-aid to the sick are desirable.

(2) Details the grievances of pharmacists: (i) Taking away from pharmacists customers who are able to pay for their own medical requirements; (ii) friendly societies are encouraged to continue present system of contracting for supplies at so much a head per annum; (iii) the professional side of pharmacy not recognised in the Bill.

(3) Suggestions for improvement of Bill: (i) The making provision in the Bill for the fixing of a tariff of rates for the supply of drugs, etc., with a professional fee additional for dispensing; (ii) that the contract—if there be one—be not with Friendly Societies individually, but with local Health Committee, and that (iii) insured persons under the Bill be free to choose their own pharmacist.

(4) Resolutions for the Association's action: (i) Combined effort to secure amendments; (ii) support the Pharmaceutical Councils and the Scottish Executive in the same direction; (iii) empowering the Secretary to forward copies to local members of Parliament; (iv) a member to be nominated for the deputation proposed to be sent to Mr. Lloyd George.

Mr. Storrar's motion was seconded by Mr. T. Yule, of Cowdenbeath, and after Mr. Rutherford Hill has spoken, the resolutions were carried unanimously.

Wolverhampton Chemists' Association.—At the meeting held on May 24 there were present Messrs. W. R. Dunn (in the chair), Bowdler, Fellows, N. Hunt, F. J. Gibson, C. Warner, M. R. Warner, Forster, Phillips, Stanway, and J. H. Coleman. The President read a paper on *Home-made Chemicals*. After describing the requisite apparatus, the various chemicals the lecturer had made were shown and particulars given as regards their preparation. These included alumen, exsicc. (the author had found commercial products containing an insoluble ammonium oxysulphate owing to overheating), iron alum, ammonium iodide (from ammonium carbonate and solution of ferrous iodide, the ordinary variety frequently containing iodine), ammonium salts, (nitrate, phosphate, benzoate, etc.), antipyrin salicylate, pure barium chloride, bismuth citrate (the freshly made compound being more soluble in ammonia), caffeine citrate, calcium salts (bromide and lactate), freshly precipitated yellow oxide of mercury (for ointment), and lead iodide. Scale preparations were dealt with next, scaling being described as simple if the oven is not heated beyond 100° F. Half or whole plate porcelain developing-dishes answer admirably for this purpose. He also had occasion to prepare granular effervescent preparations. To make emulsion of magnesia a solution of caustic potash is poured in a thin stream into a solution of magnesium sulphate, with constant stirring. It is in this portion of the process that the secret of success lies, as unless the potash solution is well distributed the precipitate of magnesium hydroxide will be small. The precipitate is washed by decantation, collected on a muslin strainer, and diffused in the requisite quantity of distilled water. The preparation of glyc. bismuth. carb., liq. ferri iodid., pro. syrup., and liq. Eastonii pro. syrup (the iron solution being kept separately from the quinine and strychnine solution). It was found that medical men much appreciated ung. potass. iodid. prepared as follows: Potassii iodidi, 5j.; aq. distillate, 5j. (preferably warm), added to adeps. lane anhydros. 5v., melted in a warm mortar and thoroughly incorporated, then paraf. molle 5iij. added. The result is an ointment which never becomes rancid. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Dunn for his paper. The Secretary announced that the Principal of the Technical School had prepared a first-stage course of study in theoretical and practical organic and inorganic chemistry and botany for pharmaceutical students.

Mansfield Pharmacists' Association.—The annual meeting was held on Wednesday, May 24, when the President (Mr. W. F. Croft) took the chair. Messrs. Dickenson, Greaves, Dax, Walker, Pegg, Adams, Jesson, Highfield, and Bell were also present. Mr. Adams (Treasurer) presented his financial statement, showing a balance in hand of 3l. 10s. 6d. The officers appointed for the year were: *President*, Mr. P. J. Shacklock (Mansfield); *Vice-President*, Mr. H. Highfield (Hathwaite); *Secretary*, Mr. A. H. Bell (Mansfield); and *Treasurer*, Mr. B. Adams (Mansfield). Mr. Pegg proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. W. F. Croft, the retiring President, and congratulated him on his recovery from a long illness. Mr. Croft briefly replied. Mr. Jesson proposed a vote of thanks to the Secretary (Mr. Bell) and Treasurer (Mr. Adams). After the meeting Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, of Sheffield, was introduced by Mr. Highfield, and he gave an address. Mr. Newsholme stated that he visited Mansfield on behalf of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, and he first dealt with the objections which this Association had urged against the proposed curriculum. Mr. J. A. Pegg explained to Mr. Newsholme that the reason why the members objected was because it would be disastrous in the present condition of the trade, especially as there was difficulty in apprentices getting instruction locally; and to that Mr. Newsholme replied that there is a local Technical Institute, and he hoped that it would be possible for apprentices to get instruction there. He maintained that the proposed curriculum was intended to make things easier for examination candidates, and that in the long run it would be advantageous to pharmacy. He then touched upon the National Insurance Bill, stating that the Council of the Pharmaceutical

Society want recognition of chemists in the Bill, and also that they should not be handed over to friendly societies, but that every chemist in the country shall have the privilege of dispensing whatever medicine is required. He then spoke of the sale of weed-killers and other agricultural and horticultural poisons, and explained what Mr. Glyn-Jones has been trying to do with regard to the protection of the description "Pharmacy" with an appeal for union among chemists. Mr. J. A. Pegg, in reply to an invitation for "heckling," said that the Mansfield Association had at the outset urged that the description "Pharmacy" should be restricted to registered chemists. Mr. A. H. Bell, Mr. Jesson, Mr. Greaves, and Mr. Adams also put questions in regard to the curriculum and other topics, which Mr. Newsholme replied to, and at the conclusion a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Newsholme, on the motion of Mr. Crofts, seconded by Mr. Dickenson.

Bristol Chemists' Association.—A meeting was held at the Grand Hotel, Bristol, on May 31, to discuss the *National Insurance Bill*. The chair was taken by Mr. E. F. Young, and amongst those present were Messrs. A. S. Taylor, Cockayne, H. W. Bryan, E. Norman, G. S. Ball, J. Arkell, E. A. Chard, F. Widgery, F. Bicroft, J. S. Guthrie, Clutterbuck, Bennett, Grant, W. H. Pess, A. G. Wills, H. E. Boorne, Kiddle, W. Pitchford, Smallman, Colley, Hedley, Hole, Strode, Cosh, Mansbridge, Plumley, Dunford, Kirby, Partridge, Nethercott, Good, Cooper, and H. E. Matthews. The Chairman said the consequences of the Bill would prove very far reaching and would result probably in the nationalisation of medicine and pharmacy. The Bill was introduced and received with a chorus of approval from both sides of the House, and had already passed the second reading, and the Bill for good or ill was practically passed, subject to what provision they got when the Bill came to the Committee stage. The approval with which it was received showed the good heart of the nation. As chemists, if they had their legitimate share in the Bill on anything like equitable terms they would take their part in making the thing a success. Mr. Wippell Gadd (Exeter), Mr. Cooper (Weston-super-Mare), and Mr. H. E. Matthews (Clifton) spoke, the last named proposing the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:

"That this meeting of the Chemists of the four Parliamentary Divisions of Bristol, the Wales Division of Somerset, and the Thornbury Division of Gloucestershire, resolves: (1) That it welcomes the separation of prescribing from dispensing as provided for in the *National Insurance Bill*; (2) That no arrangement for the supply of medicines will be satisfactory which does not ensure that the dispensing shall be controlled by persons registered under the Pharmacy Act, of whom there is already an adequate number to undertake; (3) That every dispensary within which dispensing under the Act is carried out shall be subject to all the provisions of the Pharmacy Acts, Food and Drugs Acts, the Weights and Measures Act, and all other Acts of Parliament affecting traders; (4) That as patients must be free to choose their own doctor so they must be free to choose their own chemist; (5) That remuneration shall not be on a capitation basis, but that uniform rates of payment for supplies be fixed by the Government for the whole country, and that the matter be not left to be settled by bargaining with Friendly Societies and local Health Committees; (6) That pharmacists shall have representation on the Central Advisory Board and on the local Health Committee."

Another resolution was subsequently passed deprecating facilities being given for the establishment of dispensaries.

Halifax Chemists' Association.—A special meeting was held on May 30 in the Mechanics' Hall, called to discuss their position with regard to the *National Insurance Scheme*. Mr. W. R. Fielding presided over a well-attended and enthusiastic meeting. After considerable discussion, the following resolutions were unanimously passed, to be forwarded to the local M.P.s, to Mr. Lloyd George, and Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones:

(1) "That the ban on dispensing by practitioners be extended to friendly societies, so that the act of dispensing be conserved by law to registered pharmacists in business, who are the legally qualified dispensers. This we undoubtedly think was Mr. Lloyd George's intention."

(2) "That a Government price-list be issued and drugs charged accordingly, plus a fee for the professional part of the work—namely, dispensing—on the model of the system so successful in Germany."

(3) "That in the interests and convenience of the public the insured person be given the liberty of choice as to the establishment where his prescription shall be compounded."

(4) "That the pharmacist should be directly represented on the local health committee which administers the Act, and that payment should also be made through the same committee."

It was further decided to send the following resolution to the Pharmaceutical Society:

"The Halifax and District Chemists' Association wishes to place before the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society the urgent necessity for immediate action in protesting against the clauses of the Insurance Bill as at present drafted, and urges that an influential deputation from the Pharmaceutical Society should wait upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer, pointing out the necessity of stating in unmistakable terms the State recognition of the qualified chemist: that the chemist shall not be required to treat with the friendly societies, but with the State itself; that friendly societies shall not be allowed to set up dispensaries, but that all medicines be dispensed by qualified chemists in their own shops, and that a tariff be formed for the dispensing of medicines based on the plan now in operation in Germany; further, that the members of the Association are much disappointed at the apparent inaction of the Pharmaceutical Society and its Parliamentary Secretary, and considers that they ought to have shown a distinct and emphatic lead in such a grave crisis as the present one caused by the introduction of the *National Insurance Bill*; the loyalty to the Society of the members locally will be seriously disturbed should something not be done immediately."

The members also decided that each member of the Association should individually protest to the local M.P.s.

Eastbourne Pharmacists' Association.—A special meeting was held at Diplock's Hotel on Wednesday evening, May 24, to consider the Bill and its probable effect, unless amended, upon pharmacy. The following were present and took part in the discussion: Mr. Forbes (President) in the chair, Messrs. Harmer, Price, Brown, Marchant, C. H. Temple, Routly, Veale, Mosley, Mills, and Moss (Secretary). The President (Mr. J. Forbes) introduced the subject, and then called upon Mr. Mills to explain the Bill. This he did in a lucid manner, pointing out the grave peril to pharmacy, and that it behoved every chemist in the Kingdom to bestir himself if he wished to avert the threatened danger. After earnest deliberation it was resolved to send a copy of the subjoined to the Secretaries of all the local pharmaceutical associations, also to the large wholesalers and manufacturers.

STATE INSURANCE SCHEME.

Although Mr. Lloyd George definitely and distinctly stated in introducing this scheme that the chemist would do the dispensing, no provision whatsoever to that effect is made in the Bill (see Clause XIV.).

It is already stated that the friendly societies are considering the desirability of erecting a factory for the preparation of galenicals, drugs, chemicals, and sick-room requisites, to be distributed to depôts in the different towns and villages, with the object of supplying to insurers under the scheme at reduced cost, and to increase the benefits accruing to their respective societies.

Fifteen millions will be compulsorily brought under the Act—i.e., over one-third of the population of the British Isles—and these will be enabled to obtain their medicines, sick-room requisites, such as bed-pans, hot-water bottles, water-beds, air-cushions, elastic hose, trusses and such like, absolutely free of charge. It is obvious that a vast amount of trade at present done by chemists, both wholesale and retail, will be diverted into other channels, which will result in serious loss to all, and probably bankruptcy in hundreds of cases.

As is shown, there is nothing to prevent the friendly societies building their own factories, and undoubtedly they will do so, which will be a serious blow to the wholesale druggist, sundry house, tablet and lozenge makers, who will suffer alike with the retailer if this Bill is unamended.

In view of the vital importance of these proposals, it is the duty of everyone directly or indirectly interested in the drug-trade to at once bring all the influence they possess to bear upon the Society, their local M.P.s, and the Government the necessity of so amending Clause XIV. that the interests of the thousands representing the drug-trade shall be in no way adversely affected.

(Signed) ARTHUR MOSS, Hon. Secretary.

North Staffs Chemists' Association.—A special meeting was held at the Roebuck Hotel, Stoke, on Thursday, May 25, to discuss the manner in which trade interests are affected by the *National Insurance Bill*. Mr. Weston Poole (Newcastle), President, occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. J. B. Blades, E. Martin Mellor, T. Bentley, S. G. Challinor, Kemp, T. C. Cornwell, E. Corner, W. D. Edge, J. A. Dale, W. Tipper, H. A. Blades, Leek, and E. Griffiths. It was unanimously agreed to revive the annual picnic, the date to be fixed later. The curriculum scheme was mentioned, also the B.P.C. secret and proprietary medicines inquiry, the latter leading to a good discussion. The *National Insurance Bill* was then considered, and as the result of some two hours' animated discussion the following resolutions were drawn up for transmission to the Pharmaceutical Society:

1. That we agree to the principle of the separation of dispensing and prescribing.
2. That we adopt as a general principle the practice of bargaining direct with the Government.
3. That the supply of medicines under the scheme should be confined to practising pharmacists.
4. That there should be a free choice of pharmacists to whom the assured can go.
5. That, as a general principle, we agree to a Government schedule of prices, as opposed to a fixed *per capita* charge.
6. That the Pharmaceutical Society should oppose very strongly the principle of friendly societies and health committees conducting establishments for the supply of medicines in opposition to pharmacists under this scheme.
7. That we claim it as a right, as affected parties, that pharmacists should be nominated to act on health committees in conjunction with the medical men, representatives of friendly societies, and the others.

The President opened the discussion, and was followed by Mr. Dale, Mr. Corner, Mr. Challinor, Mr. Mellor, Mr. Cornwell, and Mr. Blades. The speeches were good, and we cull the following points and suggestions from them:

If friendly societies run shops they ought to be made to conform to the Pharmacy Acts, the Weights and Measures Acts, and the various other Acts which apply to the business of the pharmacist.—*Poole*.

Prescriptions given by the doctors should be confined to the Pharmacopoeia or recognised books.—*Dale*.

The pharmacist ought to have the right to refuse to make up any particular prescription.—*Corner*.

There ought to be stated hours for dispensing.—*Mellor*.

It would be very unwise to seek to insert any provision governing hours in the Bill. If exceptional circumstances arose chemists generally speaking were prepared to meet them.—*Cornwell*.

Pharmacists ought to be represented on the health committees (resolution to that effect carried).—*Blades*.

The *per capita* proposal was strongly condemned, it being pointed out that chemists might be called upon to supply quantities of virol or cod-liver oil emulsion.

Pharmacists would do best for themselves by bargaining direct with the Government.

Friendly societies who open their own warehouses cannot be compelled to employ qualified men to dispense, because they do not sell to the public.

It would be impossible to work the scheme except by having a schedule of prices.—*Mellor*.

I spoke to a dispenser to-day who said the friendly societies are thinking of doing this very thing—opening their own places.—*Blades*.

If they are going to be permitted to do this, look at the business we are going to lose; it will be millions.—*Poole*.

On the motion of Mr. Blades, jun., seconded by Mr. Dale, the following resolution was unanimously passed, and it was decided to send copies to Mr. Asquith, Mr. Lloyd George, the local Members of Parliament, and Mr. Glyn-Jones:

"That this Association regrets that, while the position and duties of the doctors have been recognised and defined in the Bill, such has not been the case with the pharmacists, although Mr. Lloyd George laid it down as a principle that dispensing should be done by the pharmacists and prescribing by the doctors."

The Shops Bill.

THE Grand Committee of the House of Commons met again on Tuesday, May 30, and disposed of Clauses 8 to 13 before adjourning for the Whitsuntide holidays. The greater part of the sitting was devoted to the consideration of Clause 8, which provides that where it appears to the Secretary of State, on the representation of the local authority or otherwise, that it is expedient to ascertain the extent to which there is a demand for early closing in any locality, and to promote and facilitate the making of a closing order therein, the Secretary of State may appoint a competent person to hold a local inquiry. Mr. Norman Craig moved to omit "otherwise" and to insert "by a memorial of at least one-tenth of the occupiers of shops to be affected by such order." The amendment was defeated by 25 votes to 14. The Committee, by 24 votes to 17, rejected a proposal, submitted by Mr. Malcolm, that the conference with the local authority should take place before the inquiry.

A long debate ensued on Mr. Norman Craig's motion to delete Sub-clause 3, which gives the Home Secretary power to make the closing order. He objected to Whitehall controlling these matters over the head of the local authority. Mr. Dudley Ward, who was in charge of the Bill for the day, contested the amendment from the point of view that it would greatly restrict the usefulness of the Com-

missioner, and that nothing could be done by anyone until the shopkeepers had voted. The proposal was lost by 24 votes to 13. A division was taken on the question that the clause be added to the Bill, and it was carried by 25 votes to 13.

Clause 9 deals with the revocation of closing orders. As an amendment to this Mr. Glyn-Jones wanted a two-thirds majority, instead of a bare majority of occupiers of shops, to vote for the rescinding of any closing order. Mr. Norman Craig expressed surprise that the hon. member for Stepney, of all persons, should oppose the liberal principle of a bare majority. Mr. Dudley Ward emphasised the fact that it is occupiers who have to vote; but Lord Robert Cecil and other members rather favoured Mr. Glyn-Jones's motion, whereupon the Lord Advocate came to the rescue of the Government and explained that whatever the voting may be, it would not be final, as it would simply bring the matter before the Home Secretary. Mr. Glyn-Jones insisted that his amendment carried out the principle of Clause 2, where a majority of two-thirds is required for a closing order, and he apprehended that the same machinery should be used for rescinding such an order. Mr. Wilson put the motion that the words in the Bill should stand and the "ayes" and "noes" which were voiced seemed equal. Whereupon he called for a division. "Lock the doors," he added. Then, in reply to their names, read out by the Clerk, members said "Ay" or "No," and in the result 13 voted for the words of the clause and 11 against, so that Mr. Glyn-Jones' amendment dropped.

Mr. G. Roberts moved to insert an amendment providing that in deciding whether or not a closing order was to be revoked, the Home Secretary should take into consideration any representations which might be addressed to him by persons affected or likely to be affected by such revocation. Mr. Dudley Ward accepted the amendment on behalf of the Government, and the Committee having agreed to it, the clause was added to the Bill.

On Clause 10, which deals with trading elsewhere than in shops, applying the provisions to, *e.g.*, stalls and costermongers, Mr. Dudley Ward explained in answer to criticisms that Sub-section (a) provides for the sale of catalogues and programmes at balls and theatres. After some discussion on the question the Government consented to consider before Report whether it would not be advisable to omit the sub-section, the wording of which is:

This prohibition shall not apply where the retail trade or business is carried on in a place, not being a shop, merely as ancillary or incidental to some other business (not being retail trade or business) and does not form a substantial part of that business.

The Committee regarded as somewhat ridiculous Mr. Dudley Ward's proposal to add "Nothing in this section shall apply to the sale of muffins and crumpets," and after some banter the hon. gentleman withdrew the suggested proviso. The clause was added to the Bill.

Clause 11 (provisions as respects shops where more than one business is carried on), Clause 12 (provision of seats for female attendants), and Clause 13 (ventilation of shops) were added to the Bill, Mr. George Roberts' amendment to Clause 13 being accepted, *viz.*:

"In every shop in which shop-assistants are employed there shall be for the use of those assistants proper and sufficient sanitary conveniences, and such conveniences shall be kept clean and in repair. The Secretary of State may make rules for the purpose of carrying this sub-section into effect."

Mr. Glyn-Jones also proposed to add:

"And in every room in a shop in which female shop assistants are employed adequate measures shall be taken for securing and maintaining a reasonable temperature, and the measures so taken shall not interfere with the purity of the air in such room."

This amendment was not pressed, however. The Committee adjourned until June 15.

BIRTH.

McCLEMENT.—At Victoria Avenue, Newtownards, Co. Down, on May 16, the wife of John McClement, J.P., chemist and druggist, of a son.

DEATHS.

BARBER.—On May 25, at Upton Lodge, Copers Cope Road, Beckenham, Mr. John Frederick Barber (formerly of Messrs. Edward Barber & Son, Colonial produce brokers), 9 Mincing Lane, London, E.C., aged eighty-five.

BROCKETT.—Recently, Mr. Richard Hodgson Brockett, Winston House, Benton, aged seventy-seven. Mr. Brockett went to Newcastle-on-Tyne from the Gainford district about half a century ago, and carried on business as a chemist in Northumberland Street, when that now very busy thoroughfare had but few shops. Mr. Brockett settled in Benton about forty years ago. He acted until his death as Secretary to the Newcastle Throat, Nose, and Ear Hospital. His wife died a few months ago.

BROWN.—On May 26, Mr. Joseph Brown, chemical manufacturer, Thornhill, Dewsbury, aged sixty-nine. Mr. Brown served on the local Board of Guardians for thirty-three years, and had acted as President of the Poor Law Unions Association for England and Wales. He was also a member of the West Riding of Yorkshire County Council, a Borough Magistrate, and a Charity Trustee.

DOUMIN.—On May 26, at Düsseldorf, Germany, Mr. Paul Doumin, manager of the essential-oil department of Messrs. Felton & Crepin, 5 Savage Gardens, Tower, London, E.C., aged about sixty. Mr. Doumin, who was on a business trip on the Continent, died suddenly in a Düsseldorf hotel. He leaves a widow, two sons and two daughters. One of his sons, Mr. Roland Doumin, who was associated with his father at Messrs. Felton & Crepin's, will now undertake the management of the essential-oil department.

FAWSETT.—On May 25, at his residence, Mr. Theodore Fawsett, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-one. Mr. Fawsett died suddenly from heart-failure, his death necessitating a coroner's inquest. With the exception of an interval of about four years, the late Mr. Fawsett had been connected with the firm of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., 60 Bartholomew Close, E.C., for upwards of forty years.

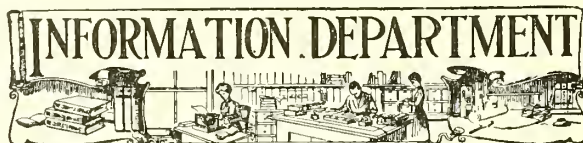
GAMLEY.—At Edinburgh on May 25, Mr. David Gamley, chemist and druggist, formerly for over twenty years with Messrs. J. F. Macfarlan & Co., chemists, aged sixty-four. Mr. Gamley was a native of Letham, Forfarshire, and served his apprenticeship with Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co., Edinburgh, at a time when important experiments with chloroform were being carried out. He was for a time in business for himself in Haddington Place, Edinburgh; but he accepted the position of manager of Messrs. J. F. Macfarlan & Co.'s retail business in Grange Road, and carried it on for twenty years, retiring about twenty years ago. He had only recently returned from a tour in the course of which he visited Canada and the United States. He was unmarried. His funeral took place at Grange Cemetery on Sunday, and was largely attended.

HAMLIN.—At Durban, on April 29, Mr. F. P. Hamlin, aged sixty-one. Mr. Hamlin apparently enjoyed the best of health up to his rather sudden death. He had been in business on the Point Road for over a quarter of a century, and was an active member of the Natal Pharmaceutical Society, being present at a meeting two evenings before his death. A number of brother chemists attended the funeral. Mr. Hamlin leaves a widow and small family.

KELEHER.—Recently, Mr. John Keleher, for many years a representative on the road for Messrs. Green & Needham, druggists, Halifax, and their successors, the Halifax Wholesale Drug Co., aged sixty-four.

NEVIN.—At 245 Woodstock Road, Belfast, on May 25, Margaret J., widow of the late Thos. Nevin, Portglenone, aged eighty-six. Mrs. Nevin died at the residence of her son, Mr. S. Nevin, registered druggist.

STEWART.—At 4 Midmar Avenue, Edinburgh, on May 27, Marie Ritchie, wife of Mr. A. K. Stewart, chemist and druggist, Lynedoch Place, Edinburgh.



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INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries received since our last issue:

- 55/651. "Quinthol."
- 55/65. "Cuista Pills."
- 57/130. "Little Devils."
- 57/131. "Diuretic No. 3."
- 60/19. "Thalutroids."
- 57/72. "Randolph Bandages."
- 53/63. Evans' talcum powder.
- 54/6. "Arum Lily" perfume.
- 56/1. "Levedura de Ceneja."
- 53/38. "La Tosca Nit-killer."
- 53/10. "Glyproteid": makers.
- 56/110. Cook's "Pile Ointment."
- 57/43. "Nazol": where obtainable?
- 57/13. "Harvey's Diarrhoea-pellets."
- 56/650. "Kitzam Disinfecting Fluid."
- 54/7. "Penny-in-the-Slot" soda-fountain.
- 56/111. Dr. Blockusewiski's "Sananter" (blue carton).
- 57/42. Dr. Niven's paper handkerchiefs, serviettes, etc.
- 54/63. Circular flat cardboard boxes for toilet-powders: actual makers.
- 53/9. "St. Lucia Herb Extract" for insomnia (made by Lisle, Sutton & Co.).

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to where the following articles can be obtained, and in many cases we have given the actual makers. The information will be repeated to any other inquirers who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- Amyloform (56/11).
- Bisol (56/65).
- Bottle-washing machinery (French inquiry) (55/49).
- Bowyer's spikenard ointment (54/24).
- Carabana water (56/1).
- Carbolic soap (household) (56/27).
- Card-index systems (52/56).
- Carpholite (47/40).
- Castile soap (58/59).
- Chinosol (54/8).
- Cholelith-pills (53/1).
- Clinical thermometers (55/55).
- Colatin-tablets (34/33).
- Cromer sea-salt (in 2d. packets) (55/4).
- Cupiss's constitution balls (54/53).
- Diuretin (57/13).
- "Enterprise" machinery (London agents) (56/12).
- "Glyseo" (53/2).
- Iodolose (58/60).
- Jayne's remedies (56/1).
- "Joy" toilet specialties (56/65).
- Kelly's surgical appliances (57/72).
- Kieselguhr (first-hand supplies) (55/51).
- Madam de Stahl's court hair-restorer (54/60).
- Magic razorette (56/39).
- Marcuson, sponge merchant (address) (53/47).
- Mineral naphtha (56/42).
- Mylutol (56/650).
- Nicotine and products (53/66).
- Chemical J.V. preparations (56/600).
- Oxygen (55/62).
- Postal boxes (wooden) (56/48).
- "Primus" heating-flasks (51/69).
- Raub's cutaneous soap (46/56).
- Rhinoculin (56/25).
- Saccharated wheat phosphates (34/33).
- Salenal (56/250).
- "Sinol" specialties (49/71).
- Soda fountains (English makers) (50/5).
- Sodium perborate (47/69).
- Soil fumigant injectors (50/66).
- Spirit of tar (for sheep-dipping) (49/20).
- Stearns, F. (Detroit) (London agent) (46/43).
- Thymic acid (45/52).
- Thymolyptol (46/55).
- Thyroidectin capsules (54/16).
- Tin bottles for oils (34/72).
- Toilet-powder boxes (thin wood) (52/20).
- Trask's ointment-jars (49/55).
- "Veda" disinfectants, etc. (57/720).
- "Vermite" (proprietors) (48/56).
- Veterinary syringes (50/62).
- "W. H. B." brand beeswax (56/60).
- "Wedewood" series of soap (53/43).
- Whitall Tatum's agents (48/67).
- Whitten's embrocation (47/62).
- Wire brushes for removing rust (56/41).
- "Zondo" disinfectant (48/69).

OBSERVATIONS & REFLECTIONS.

By Xrayser II.

The British Pharmaceutical Conference

is evidently displacing the Pharmaceutical Society as the medium of communication between chemists and doctors, a very curious transition brought about mainly, I think, by the inexcusable neglect of trade matters by the Council of the Society. The intimation made last week by Dr. Whitaker that a consultation is to be held between the Committees appointed by the British Medical Association and the Conference, and his expression of the hope that a working arrangement might be come to for the division of prescribing and dispensing between the doctors and the chemists are both very welcome items of news. Even if nothing comes at the moment of the consultation, it will be a great step in advance if an impartial statement of the case on each side be put forward for consideration. Taken in conjunction with the insurance proposals of the Government it would seem as if the omens were distinctly favourable for pharmacy, but the situation is very delicate and it needs wise handling. If it is not bungled, there is no saying how much good may ere long emerge. I congratulate the Conference Executive on this opportunity for displaying their prowess in negotiation, and I hope that something of real practical utility for the trade will be the result. It is apparent also that the rejuvenation brought about by the alteration of the constitution of the Conference last year is not to be allowed to run to seed, for we are promised a "Practice Section" discussion at Portsmouth. Whether "Secret and Proprietary Preparations" and "Pharmaceutical Education" will be much of a draw is another matter; we are just about "fed up" with both of these at present.

The most Noteworthy Feature,

from our point of view, of "The Times" articles on German insurance has not, so far as I have noticed, been discussed by any of the critics of Mr. Lloyd George's Bill; I mean the account given of the manner in which insurance is worked in Leipsic. The District Insurance Fund there has a membership of 141,000, not including dependents, and 291 doctors—four-fifths of the resident practitioners—are employed under it, without reckoning examining and supervising physicians and surgeons. This ensures two great advantages not present where a smaller number of men do the work—there is no ruinous competition for insurance fees, and every insured person can choose his own doctor. It is in this direction that we must look for the avoidance of the evils with which we are threatened here; for the plan of distributing the work over as large an area as possible would be as beneficial to the pharmacist as to the doctor, and for anything I can see would be as easily managed. On the other hand the establishment of dispensaries, as proposed by the Secretary of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, would not only go a good way towards the extinction of pharmacists in some of our poorer neighbourhoods, but would aggravate the evil of cheap physic of which Mr. Lloyd George made complaint in his speech introducing the Bill; while to confine contracts for medicine to a few selected firms would lead to such "ruinous competition" as is complained of by doctors in many parts of Germany, as well as to many abuses. But if distinctive prescription-forms were used

for insured patients, and every pharmacist who cared to do so were allowed to dispense them at prices fixed by Government or the local authority, the Bill would do us good rather than harm. In any case I am inclined to think that we are disquieting ourselves overmuch, if not altogether in vain. There can hardly be a doubt that one effect of the Bill will be to restore to us much of the dispensing we have lost. Certainly it cannot rob us of much more, nor is it likely to diminish appreciably the demand for such simple remedies as at present form the staple of our business. I know a good many people who are already insured against sickness, and they are not at all bad customers of the neighbouring chemist; they still get from him most of the medicaments they want, for this does not mean knocking off work; and in case of serious illness they would, even if not insured, in all probability go to some doctor who would take care that the chemist got nothing out of them.

The British Pharmacopœia

is at least thirteen years old, and even its most optimistic admirers must be convinced that it is lagging "superfluous on the stage." It appears that although the materials for revision are now in the hands of the General Medical Council, "some years must elapse" before the new Pharmacopœia can be published. So said the President of the Council last week. This is an extraordinary confession to make; to me it is utterly incomprehensible. For some years we have been looking forward to the issue of a new edition of the B.P., and the work of preparation for it has been completed. Why in the name of all that is sensible should it still require "some years" to get the work into print? Admitting that "skilled editorial assistance" is necessary, such assistance can surely be forthcoming, and within a year at least the proofs might be passed by the Pharmacopœia Committee. It is absurd that while practically every country in the world can have a new Pharmacopœia every ten years, Great Britain and its greater dependencies must be content with one every fifteen years, or sometimes even longer.

The Preliminary Education

of the medical student in Science has for many years been a serious worry to the pundits who compose the General Medical Council, and these grave and learned men are no nearer a solution of the problem. Fortunately the great refuge of a distracted Council is available in medicine as in pharmacy, and the question has once more been remitted to a committee to report what alterations are necessary in the regulations for the registration of medical students. It is rather curious to notice that some members of the Council hold that that body has no authority to insist on registration, still less to lay down conditions. This reminds me that there are heretics in our own ranks who maintain that certain of the regulations in force in connection with pharmaceutical examinations are *ultra vires*, but until we get a candidate with sufficient nerve and abundance of cash to spare, who will apply for a mandamus to compel the Society to examine him without fulfilling the conditions imposed, we must, I presume, consent to our being over-ridden by a tyrannical majority. It also reminds me that the same problem that has faced the General Medical Council for years is now in front of the Pharmaceutical Council; it will be interesting to see how the latter body will solve it.

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Editorial Articles.

The National Insurance Bill.

IV. Opposition by Chemists.

Since the following observations were written Mr. Glyn-Jones has succeeded in arranging for a deputation representing retail pharmacists to be received by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Thursday afternoon to lay before him their objections to the proposals in the Bill which directly affect them as dispensers of medicines. The deputation consisted of Mr. Glyn-Jones and fifteen gentlemen representative of the Pharmaceutical Societies and other interests of retail pharmacy in Great Britain and Ireland. They were received by the Chancellor in his private room at 4.15 p.m., and, although the proceedings were private, we are able to say that the Chancellor was most considerate in regard to the suggestions urged by the speakers. The official statement of the proceedings will not be available until next week.

THE Second Reading of the Bill was passed by the House of Commons on Monday, after the Chancellor of the Exchequer said a good deal regarding the opposition of medical men to those parts of the Bill that directly affect them, and with that mastery of rhetoric for which he is famous, the Chancellor succeeded in holding medical men up to derision. He had not a word to say in regard to the position of chemists and druggists under the Bill, and we fancy this was because he did not know something should be said. It may be noted that Mr. Glyn-Jones, as the representative of pharmacy, had arranged with the Speaker and Deputy-Speaker to speak on the medical and pharmaceutical aspects of the Bill, but he did not get the opportunity, although that might have been arranged without much difficulty by the Government Whips. We note that Mr. Glyn-Jones voted against the motion for the closure, this being, we presume, a protest against the indifference shown to the pharmaceutical aspects of the measure. We are forced to the conclusion that Mr. Lloyd George has been poorly informed in regard to these aspects. Several questions were submitted to him on our behalf a fortnight since in regard to the arrangements for the supply of medicines, and asking if a system such as that in operation in Germany will be adopted under the Bill. The reply sent by the Chancellor states:

"That the detailed arrangements as to medical treatment will be left to the societies and health committees administering

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the benefits of the State scheme. The arrangements, however, will be subject to the approval of the Insurance Commissioners, and Mr. Lloyd George considers it undesirable, if not quite impracticable, to tie the hands of those Commissioners by any definite provisions being incorporated in the Bill."

Several replies to kindred questions have been given by the Chancellor in Parliament this week, and they all reveal the fact that the first principles of the supply of medicines to the sick as embodied in the statutory conditions imposed upon those who may legally compound and dispense medical prescriptions require to be made clear to Parliament by chemists themselves. Besides, it is apparent that there is in the Bill disregard of the substantial capital invested by chemists in their businesses, which businesses are to be detrimentally affected in various parts of the country, especially in Scotland and Ireland, by the proposed provisions for supplying medicines through organisations created by the Bill. It is impossible for chemists to allow these proposals to go forward unchallenged or unopposed, and the only thing that remains for them to do is to make the Chancellor of the Exchequer and every other member of Parliament, both in the Commons and in the Lords, realise that without ample modification the medical proposals will ruinously affect the business of between 10,000 and 15,000 chemists in Great Britain and Ireland, and, therefore, should not be enacted.

The articles which have been published in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* regarding the systems adopted in Germany and Italy have furnished the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain with an immediate line of action. Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., and Professor Greenish left London on Thursday to make personal inquiries in Germany, Austria, and Italy regarding the dispensing of medicines there under sickness insurance schemes. Their inquiries will be directed not solely to gathering information from pharmacists, but they will also get into touch with representatives of sick clubs, labour parties, and permanent officials, with the object of securing first-hand information in regard to those points which have been detailed in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* from the pharmaceutical point of view. The result will, it is hoped, enable the Parliamentary Secretary to speak with authority upon the working of medical relief on the Continent, and the result will prove of great value on the Committee stage of the Bill. We understand that the Society also issued to its Divisional Secretaries last week a letter in regard to the Bill, asking them to take steps in co-operation with chemists in the districts to convey to parliamentary representatives an expression of the alarm which the provisions of the Bill have caused to chemists and druggists. This, at present, is what the Society urges, it being felt that the members of Parliament should know how dissatisfied chemists and druggists are with Clause 14. The General Purposes Committee of the Executive of the North British Branch of the Society also met last week, and although the meeting is not reported, we understand that steps were taken to get the Scottish views on the measure brought together and formulated into a strong memorial of protest. There is no question that the drug-trade in Scotland feels most keenly the effects of the proposals, because the great majority of the working-classes, as well as the middle classes, in Scotland get their medicines dispensed by chemists, so that the bulk of the businesses will be detrimentally affected, and it is felt that much of it will be diverted from chemists' shops to central dispensaries, or into the

hands of a few private traders, unless some attempt is made in the Bill to allow the public to choose their own chemists, just as it is being urged by the General Medical Council and by medical authorities that the public should have free choice of medical attendance. The Law Committee of the Irish Pharmaceutical Council wrote to Mr. Lloyd George on May 22, pointing out the iniquity of the special clauses of the Bill which affect dispensing in Ireland, and asking for an interview. We report meetings of several chemists' associations at which resolutions on these lines have been passed.

The Whitsuntide recess, although short, gives sufficient opportunity for chemists all over the country to meet together in order to arrange what they should do individually and collectively to influence their parliamentary representatives. The opportunity might be taken, as was suggested at the meeting of the Executive of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, to get into touch with the representatives of the British Medical Association, and, if possible, joint meetings of medical men and chemists should be held with a view to joining forces and promoting united action on those points which are of mutual interest. It must not be assumed, as was done in the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the objections of medical men to the Bill are based solely upon the amount that they are to get out of it. The real objection is to the Bill's provision for so meddling with the practices of medical men as to break the direct association of a considerable proportion of their patients with them, by making go-betweens of the friendly societies or the local health committees. The same thing is to happen to chemists, and united action to frustrate or modify this intervention is desirable. It is probable that the Pharmaceutical Societies of Great Britain and Ireland will act upon our suggestion that there should be pharmaceutical representation on the local health committees provided for in Clause 45 of the Bill in order to give similar assistance in pharmacy to what the medical representatives are to give in medicine, but the nature of the amendments to be proposed by both societies has not yet been determined. There is no longer, however, any doubt that all sections of the drug-trade have become thoroughly alive to the possible injuries that will be inflicted upon them by the Bill as it stands, and organised opposition with a view to obtaining recognition of the rights of chemists and druggists and the vested interests of all sections of the trade does not necessarily imply disloyalty to the Government or dissatisfaction with a scheme of national invalidity insurance. It is simply a case in which chemists must fight for themselves, using all the legitimate means in their power to get a hearing and fair treatment.

Norwegian Cod-liver Oil.

SINCE we commented on the position of cod-liver oil in February last the market has undergone a considerable decline, chiefly owing to the fact that the Finmarken fishing has already proved more abundant than in any previous year. The statistics which we publish in our Trade Report show that up to May 20 the Finmarken catch was 23,860,000, yielding 15,300 hectolitres, or 13,189 barrels of cod-liver oil, whereas at the close of the Finmarken fishing last year, which was the previous highest record for this centre, the catch was 23,000,000, yielding 13,500 barrels of oil; for the whole of Norway the catch now amounts to 58½ millions, yielding 39,000 hectolitres, or 33,641 barrels, an increase of eight million cod, or 1,118 hectolitres, or 964 barrels more

of steam refined cod-liver oil. Concurrently with these favourable results both as regards the catch and yield of oil, the market has shown a steady decline, amounting in all to about 60 per cent., reckoning 175s. per barrel c.i.f. London as the highest price paid this season. The reports which we publish weekly serve to emphasise the fact, well known to all who handle the drug extensively, that it is an intensely speculative article, and once again the impossibility of forecasting the final results of the fishing is well illustrated. Apart from the question of the cod-liver oil maker, who, when the fishing begins badly (as it did this season) must pay heavily for his livers, the present great decline in price is a serious matter for the wholesale druggist, who to secure himself and suit the convenience of his customers, as well as making certain of obtaining the finest quality of oil, has paid the high prices which prevailed at the beginning of the season, and now finds himself with a fair stock for which he cannot demand the price he himself has paid for it. This, we understand, has been frequently happening, and the opinion is growing that the Norwegians have a fixed idea that the fishing season *must* open badly and high prices prevail. It may be remembered that in February when prices were rapidly rising we counselled buyers "to defer purchasing, as when the catch became more normal lower prices would prevail." In very dear years we have known firms pay 200s. per barrel for the first shipments of new season's oil, which later in the season they were glad to sell at 150s., or even less, and this entirely owing to improved fishing later in the season, which no human skill or knowledge could foretell.

Cod-liver oil buyers may be roughly divided into three classes: (1) Those to whom quality is absolutely the first consideration. This class buy early in the season, no matter what the price is, and the oil is usually sold in a proprietary form, or to the highest class of pharmacist. (2) With the second class both quality and price are very important considerations, as the oil finds its way at largely competitive prices into hospitals and other public institutions, as well as to the ordinary run of chemists' businesses, so that buyers are very cautious about their purchases early in the season, especially if prices open high. (3) With the third class of buyer price is everything, and he only handles the article when he comes across a decided bargain or finds a weak Norwegian seller who must realise his stock. It is these floating parcels that so often, between seasons, exercise a depressing effect on the markets, inasmuch as they are hawked about at a mere commission price, and not only temporary lower the normal price, but rob the more legitimate dealer of perhaps some of his best customers. There is another factor which considerably affects the price of cod-liver oil, and that is the decision of the original maker as to whether he will turn his livers into medicinal steam-boiled cod-liver oil (involving a more or less expensive process of manufacture) or into the ordinary "cod oil" used largely in the process of currying leather. If prices are high he is tempted to make the medicinal oil and even to continue doing so when prices decline. This usually results in over-production, which in good years has done more to lower prices than any other factor, until the market reaches such a price that it pays no one to either make or handle the article. For it must be remembered that there is only a limited demand, and increased production and low prices do not necessarily mean an increased consumption, and cod-liver oil, most valuable article though it be, becomes in its worst sense a "drug" in the market. The position appears to be tending that way at the present time, and the decline in the price of finest Lofoten oil is such, we are informed, that the Norwegian producers and holders cannot without heavy losses make further reductions.

Botany in Ceylon.

The following is an extract from a letter printed in "The Times" of May 27:

In the "Times of Ceylon," April 12, 1911, is published a communication dated June 20, 1910, from the Governor of Ceylon to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the question of a Department of Agriculture for that Colony. With the proposals put forward in that memorandum we are not concerned, but there is one feature in connection with it against which we cannot but strongly protest. Appended to the memorandum are certain notes by Mr. Dunstan, of the Imperial Institute, of which one runs as follows:

"Owing to the agricultural duties which are now performed by the botanical officers at Peradeniya, and for which they are not specially qualified, no botanical research is being carried on, and the scientific reputation of the establishment, which was at a high level in the days of Thwaites and Trimen, is suffering."

We are confident that this statement cannot be justified. A reference to the "Annals of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya," founded by Dr. Willis in 1901, gives evidence of the amount of valuable work that has been carried out in recent years. We may mention, without attempting to be exhaustive, the researches of Messrs. Green, Holtermann, Keeble, Lang, Lock, Parkin, Pearson, Petch, Smith, Svedelius, Willis, and Wright, which have all been carried out at Peradeniya during Dr. Willis's directorship. At the present time Dr. Willis and Dr. Lock and Messrs. Petch and Green are actively engaged in research.

The letter is dated "Cambridge, May," and is signed by the following:

R. H. Biffen, Professor of Agricultural Botany.
E. F. Blackman, Reader in Botany.
Francis Darwin.
J. Stanley Gardiner, Professor of Zoology.
R. C. Punnett, Professor of Biology.
A. C. Seward, Professor of Botany.
A. E. Chipley, Master of Christ's College and Reader in Zoology.
J. B. Wood, Drapers' Professor of Agriculture.

We presume that the "Mr. Dunstan" is the academic manner of describing the Director of the Imperial Institute.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. A. MACKINTOSH STEWART, F.C.S., of Penang, S.S., has arrived in London.

MR. J. S. BATTLE, Ph.C., has been elected a member of the Council of the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce.

COUNCILLOR J. D. ROSE, J.P., chemist and druggist, Jarrow, has been appointed by the Lord Chancellor to the local Advisory Committee for the Selection of Justices of the Peace.

SIR JOHN T. BRUNNER, Bart., was on Saturday, May 27, presented, at Northwich, with a handsome writing-table, silver inkstand, and address, in recognition of his services to the borough as member of Parliament.

MR. J. R. BROUGH, C.C. (of Messrs. Lewis & Burrows, Ltd.), has been elected by the Common Council as one of their representatives at the Civic visit of the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs to Vienna in September next.

ALDERMAN J. BEECHAM, Mayor of St. Helens, has presented a silver loving cup as a Coronation trophy to the St. Helens Cyclists' Club, of which he was one of the founders, for competition in the five miles' club championship.

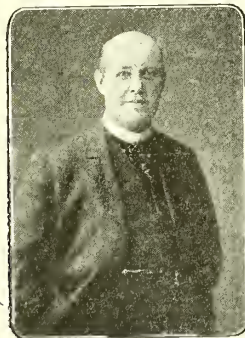
DR. SHIV NATH KAPOOR, managing director of the Punjab Drugs and General Stores Co., Ltd., Multan City, India, who has been about two months in England, is now visiting the Continent, but hopes to be back in time for the Coronation.

PROFESSOR HENRY E. ARMSTRONG, F.R.S., has been appointed Emeritus Professor of Chemistry by the Executive Committee of the City and Guilds of London Institute on his retirement from the chair of chemistry at the City and Guilds Central Technical College at the end of the present session.

AMONG the veteran Volunteers received by the King on May 29 was Col. T. Davies Sewell, who is well known to

our readers as the Clerk of the Spectacle Makers' Company. Col. Sewell was the first Volunteer enlisted in the London Rifle Brigade in 1859. In 1864 G Company presented him with a sword of honour. For eighteen years he also served in the Royal London Militia (4th Battn. Royal Fusiliers), entering as Lieutenant in 1866 and leaving as Major and Hon. Lieut.-Colonel in 1885. Later, he was appointed Field Officer, 2nd Tower Hamlets Engineers (Volunteers), and finally he commanded the 4th Volunteer Battalion of the Essex Regiment. Col. Sewell retired from active service in 1892.

MR. GEORGE HAMPTON, the new President of the Leicester and Leicestershire Chemists' Association, is a native of West Bromwich, Staffs, and was apprenticed to Mr. J. W. Garland, Cannock, after which he had experience as assistant in London and Birmingham. He passed the Minor examination from Muter's in 1893. For some time he was in business at Reading, whence he migrated to Leicester, buying a business from Mr. W. T. Hind. In Leicester he became a member of the local association, and soon made his presence felt through his energy and go-ahead methods. He relinquished the retail business for the road and travelled in England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, for both English and American houses, eventually taking an appointment with Messrs. T. Howard Lloyd & Co., Leicester, whom he still represents.



MR. G. HAMPTON.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS.

Temperatures under this heading are on the Centigrade scale.

Essential Oil of *Fagara Xanthoxyloides*.—Hans Priess contributes to the current issue of the *Berichte* of the German Pharmaceutical Society a paper on the constituents of *Fagara xanthoxyloides*. The principal portion of the work is devoted to an investigation of the essential oil. From the rind of the fruit about 2.5 per cent. of an essential oil was obtained, which was a yellow liquid of intense odour, having a sp. gr. 0.9229 and an optical rotation -1.2° . On cooling 3.4 per cent. of a crystalline substance melting at $114^\circ-145^\circ$ was deposited. The acid-value was 2.19 and the ester-value 58.51. By extraction with sodium bisulphite an oil was obtained which had a sp. gr. 0.8276 and which boiled at $98^\circ-118^\circ$ at 14-mm. pressure. On combustion this oil gave the following figures: C=77.19 per cent.; H=12.85 (methyl-nonyl ketone requires C=77.64 per cent.; H=12.94 per cent.). A crystalline oxime was obtained from this body which melted at $45^\circ-46^\circ$. Its identity is therefore established as methyl-nonyl ketone. The preparation of a semicarbazone confirmed this deduction. The oil freed from the ketone was then shaken with 2-per-cent. solution of caustic alkali, and an acid extracted which after purification melted at $30^\circ-31^\circ$ and gave figures on combustion which agreed with those for capric acid. The acid was converted into an acid amide which melted at 98° . The body was therefore identified as capric acid. The residual oil was then saponified, and acetic acid recognised as the principal combined fatty acids present in the form of esters. The saponified oil, free from free acids, was then fractionated. The earliest fraction obtained was rectified and then boiled at $174^\circ-176^\circ$, and after treatment with metallic sodium was found to be optically inactive. On combustion it gave figures proving it to be a terpene. A tetrabromide was prepared which melted at $124^\circ-125^\circ$. The body is therefore dipentene. The next fraction after purification had a sp. gr. 0.8746 and an optical rotation $+1^\circ 30'$. It boiled at $86^\circ-90^\circ$ at 16 mm. pressure. On combustion it gave figures agreeing with the formula for linalol. This was confirmed by its distinctive odour and its conversion into citral on oxidation. The last fraction purified was a heavy oil of sp. gr. 0.9214 and optical rotation $+4^\circ 16'$. It distilled at $170^\circ-180^\circ$ at 14 mm., and on combustion yielded figures showing its composition to be that of a sesquiterpene. This sesquiterpene was not so far identified definitely with any of the hitherto known sesquiterpenes. It yielded a crystalline hydrochloride.

Use of Nicotine.

AT the House of Commons on May 25, Mr. C. E. Hobhouse, M.P., Financial Secretary to the Treasury, received an influential deputation from representatives of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, the National Fruit-growers' Association, Wye College, and other bodies, to urge the removal of the restrictions now placed upon the growth of tobacco and use of nicotine for agricultural and horticultural purposes.

Mr. L. Hardy, M.P., spoke of the difficulty which is experienced in obtaining nicotine for sheep-dips and other purposes, and now that the same liquid is being used for fruit-sprays, the question had received much greater prominence than heretofore. He urged that the present regulations should be modified so as to admit imported tobacco extract under conditions which would satisfy the Customs authorities. The demand for nicotine is not satisfied by the present supply, he said; indeed, it has really become a very close business. As Chairman of the Sheep-dip Committee, which considered the whole question, he explained that that committee were very anxious that in regard to the question of denaturing, nicotine should be encouraged as against sulphur and arsenic; but objection was taken on the part of the Customs, who would not accept denaturing of the kind which would be suitable for sheep-dips. The same objections might not apply to fruit-sprays, nevertheless the Customs authorities had raised strong objections to it, and refused to accept sulphur and other matters of that kind.

Professor M. J. R. Dunstan, of Wye College, said he recently purchased seven pounds weight of nicotine in a certain town, but whatever the price paid, nicotine could not be obtained ordinarily. He argued that more facilities should be extended to the hop-grower to grow tobacco himself and make his own extract. Nicotine has to be diluted for washing purposes to the extent of one ounce to ten gallons, which works out at a shilling for every ten gallons. The hop-grower requires some five hundred gallons for every acre. Professor Dunstan disputed the idea that any danger would arise from the illicit use of the tobacco extract, which is useless for any other purposes save washing, and they suggested that a certain variety of tobacco known as the *Nicotiana rustica* should be allowed to be grown and suitably denatured with sulphur or some other mixture, which would ruin it for smoking or other illicit purposes. This would not affect its value as an insecticide in fruit orchards. They wanted to grow tobacco containing ten, fifteen, or twenty per cent. of nicotine, and they also wanted facilities for storage, which under the present Excise duty it is absurd to attempt.

Mr. Martin, of the National Fruit-growers' Association, pointed out that nicotine is the best insecticide, as it kills apple and plum aphides. He alluded to the fact that in his own county some ten or fifteen thousand pounds' worth of fruit is being threatened, and they are using a spray at a cost of three shillings per one hundred gallons because they cannot afford to use nicotine, which works out at ten shillings for the same quantity.

Mr. Lobjoy, of the Market Gardeners' Committee of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, said he uses as much as six thousand gallons of spray every year.

Mr. Hobhouse, in reply, said the real question was the shortage in the supply of nicotine, and in view of the necessity of safeguarding the revenue from tobacco, which amounts to seventeen millions of money, it is difficult to grant indulgences to unknown people up and down the country. In order to accomplish the object which they had in view, legislation would be necessary, and that, of course, would be a difficult matter. Possibly dealers might get home-grown tobacco, not to use for the purposes of smoking, but to mix with offal and dust, and then claim a drawback from Somerset House in respect of tobacco which had never paid duty at all. He pointed out that the reason why there is an insufficiency in the quantity in this country is because more profit is obtained in exporting the stalks and offal abroad than can be obtained from the buyers in this country. He did not think it could be suggested that the cost of inspection would prevent the

establishment of factories, but if there are any restrictions which press unfairly upon the manufacturer, he would look into the matter and have them removed if possible. He was told that there is no reason why if the denaturing is of a satisfactory character from their point of view, any objection should be offered to the re-introduction of tobacco extracts into this country. They must be safeguarded, however, by a process of denaturing.

Professor Dunstan said that, speaking as a chemist, it would never be possible to remove the sulphur so that an analysis would not reveal its presence.

Mr. Hobhouse added that they might embark the Government upon an expensive inquiry to say whether the denaturing was satisfactory or not. If they could frame regulations which would protect the revenue from fraud, and show the Government that they did not stand to lose over the matter, he would see what could be done, and he would consult the Chancellor of the Exchequer to see whether a clause could be added to the Finance Bill of the present year.

TRADE NOTES.

MESSRS. C. J. HEWLETT & SON, LTD., 35 to 42 Charlotte Street, London, E.C., intimate that during the months of June, July, August, and September their establishment will be closed at 5 P.M. instead of 6 P.M., and on Saturdays at 1 o'clock instead of 2 P.M.

AMERICAN PROPRIETARIES.—The American Drug Stores Company (Charles Brooks, proprietor), 24 Orange Street, Haymarket, London, W.C., have published a new edition of their wholesale list of American and English proprietary medicines. It is a wonderful list of American proprietaries which are in demand in this country, and is one which most chemists will find useful. It is supplied on request.

CORONATION HOLIDAYS.—Messrs. T. Morson & Son, 14 Elm Street, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C., in order to give their employes the fullest possible advantage of the Coronation holidays, are proposing to close down their factory, as far as is practicable, during the whole of Coronation week. The Elm Street warehouse, however, will only be closed on Thursday and Friday, June 22 and 23, and customers are invited to anticipate their requirements during the early part of June.

WRIGHT'S VIEW COMPETITION.—Messrs. Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd., 48 Southwark Street, London, S.E., ask for the co-operation of chemists in the second view competition which is to be announced in the "Daily Mail" on June 5. The last competition of this class proved to be an excellent sales-stimulant which benefited chemists. The plan is to supply a book of thirty-six views of seaside places, which competitors are required to name correctly in a schedule at the end, the series of views being different from that given on the previous occasion. With each solution must be enclosed an outside wrapper of Wright's coal-tar soap and the name and address of the chemist from whom the book and soap were obtained. Substantial prizes are offered to the public, and the chemist who supplies the prize-winners is handsomely provided for. Further details are given in the advertisement of Messrs. Wright, Layman & Umney in this issue.

A NATIONAL EMBLEM.—Considerable discussion and correspondence is being carried on in South Africa as to what the national flower shall be. The cable stating that the African emblem to be embroidered on King George's robe at the Coronation seems to have given rise to this. The wattle was mentioned, but the wattle is not indigenous to South Africa, it coming from Australia, just the same as the eucalyptus, known in South Africa as the blue gum tree. The mimosa and the disa tree are also suggested, both of them being essentially South African. The inflorescences of the mimosa are erect, whereas those of the wattle hang in tassels. What will eventually be the emblem remains to be seen, but so far the mimosa is the favourite.

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

Thermos Patents.—On May 26, 1911, the appeal to the law officer from the decision of the Comptroller-General, granting the Thermos Co. an amended patent in respect of the "Thermos" flask, was decided by the Solicitor-General (Sir John Simon) in favour of the company, and the amended patent was ordered to be sealed accordingly.

What is a "Structure"?—The appeal by Messrs. A. & F. Pears, Ltd., against the decision of the Bow Street Magistrate convicting them of an offence under the London Building Act, 1894, Sections 22 and 73 (8), of erecting a canopy to the doorway of their house in Oxford Street, came before the Lord Chief Justice and Justices Pickford and Lush last week. The magisterial hearing was reported in the *C. & D.*, December 17, 1910, and a photograph of the house showing the canopy in our issue of January 28, 1911. The Court now upheld that the canopy is a "structure" or "erection" within the meaning of the Act, and dismissed the appeal.

High Court Cases.

Unless when otherwise stated these cases have been heard in the High Court of Justice, London.

PERFUMERY TRADE-MARK.

In the Chancery Division on May 25, Mr. Justice Warrington heard an appeal from an order of the Registrar of Trade-marks refusing to register a trade-mark for perfumery. Mr. A. J. Walter, K.C., and Mr. Grey appeared for applicants, Javel & Parquet, and Mr. H. Terrell, K.C., and Mr. W. de B. Herbert for Mr. George Chaplin Nicolson Piesse, trading as Piesse & Lubin, who opposed the application. The case was mentioned in the *C. & D.*, May 27.

Mr. Walter said the application was made in Class 48 (perfumery) for the registration of two marks, one of them the words "Cœur de Jeannette," and the other a label containing these words. The ground of the opposition of Mr. Piesse was:

"I use, and since 1899 have used extensively, a mark consisting of the words 'Cœur de Jeannette' for my perfumery as a trade-mark, and also in my advertisements and price-lists, and on the labels in my business. The mark which the applicants are seeking to register is, so far as the words 'Cœur de Jeannette,' identical with my mark, and the applicants are not entitled to an exclusive right by registration."

The facts were these:—In the year 1890 the applicants invented the phrase "Cœur de Jeannette" as applicable to perfumery of their manufacture, and it was registered in the French Tribunal of Commerce on June 2, 1900, and from that time it had been used continuously in France, Great Britain, and other countries, and there was a considerable trade in Great Britain among all the well-known perfumery people. It was never registered in this country. In 1909 it came to the knowledge of the applicants that the firm of Piesse & Lubin were using the term "Cœur de Jeannette" on perfumery of their manufacture, and thereupon the applicants wrote and called their attention to it, and their reply was to apply for registration of the words as a trade-mark. The present applicants opposed that, pointing out that they had been using it since 1900, and Piesse & Lubin withdrew their application. Then Javel & Parquet made the present application, and Piesse & Lubin opposed it, and in their notice of opposition they set out that since 1899—that was prior to the date that the applicants invented and registered the mark in France—they had used the words. It was not in 1899, but in 1905, that they first used the words.

His Lordship: Suppose it was 1905, still it was a case of user.

Mr. Walter said that was so, but it came to the notice of the applicants first in 1909, and the mere fact of user by another, although it gave rights, did not in any way deprive an applicant of the right to also go on the register if there were only two applicants. He (counsel) thought the Registrar was not entitled to refuse the application because another person also used the mark.

Mr. Terrell contended that the moment they got an article the name of which indicated a system under which the article was made, it ceased to be a registrable mark.

Mr. Walter raised an objection to Mr. Terrell taking this point on the ground that it was not taken before the Registrar.

His Lordship upheld Mr. Walter, and the hearing was adjourned.

On Friday, May 26, Mr. H. Terrell, K.C., M.P., continued his argument on behalf of Piesse & Lubin, and asked his Lordship to allow the case to stand over in order that they might have an opportunity of making an application for concurrent registration of this mark.

Mr. A. J. Walter, K.C., for the applicants, agreed, saying his Lordship might be satisfied that there was an honest concurrent user.

His Lordship, in allowing the appeal to stand over, directed Mr. Terrell to apply forthwith, and said he would hear both applications together.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

CAMPHORATED OIL.

Sheriff-substitute Orr, in the Edinburgh Sheriff Court, gave his decision on Friday, May 26, in the case brought against W. K. Mitchell, chemist and druggist, Newhaven, for selling camphorated oil which was found to be deficient in camphor (see *C. & D.*, May 20, index folio 726). Sheriff Orr said he found the charge proved. The analysis was not challenged and it stated that the oil contained 18 per cent. of camphor. Taking the British Pharmacopœia as the true standard it was obvious that this article did not contain the proper quantity of camphorated oil in terms of Section 6 of the 1875 Act. The evidence satisfied him that the proper and recognised standard was the British Pharmacopœia. The respondent led no evidence to challenge that he accepted the Pharmacopœia as the standard. He had an explanation, but he could not explain how the deficiency occurred. If that was so there was no doubt the case had been proved. Only one other matter fell to be considered: objection was taken to the form of the certificate which stated "I am of opinion that said sample contained no more than 18 per cent. of weight." That did not in words mention what the standard was, the standard namely of the British Pharmacopœia, but it was quite obvious to chemists or anyone acquainted with the matter in reading the certificate what standard the analyst proceeded upon, although it was not mentioned by name or whether it was a statutory standard or not. That was enough to enable the party who got the analysis to know exactly what the analyst had been doing and what exactly he was accused of. As he had already pointed out, the standard referred to was the British Pharmacopœia, and it was not in any way challenged by the accused. On that point his Lordship thought the certificate of analysis was not open to objection. The other objection taken to the certificate was that the weight of the entire sample was not given, the solicitor's point being that the weight of the article should be stated. Dr. Falconer King (the public analyst) said it was not convenient to weigh it. Looking into the cases he thought it was quite certain that it was not necessary in every case or in this case to give the weight, therefore he did not think that was a good objection to the analysis. It therefore only remained for him to impose a penalty. He did not regard the case as a serious or grave one. He would impose a penalty of 1*l.* Mr. Yool, S.S.C., agent for the respondent, asked his Lordship to state a case to the Justiciary Appeal Court as to whether the form of the certificate was in order, and Sheriff Orr said he would do so.

STRONG SOLUTION OF AMMONIA.

At Oldbury on May 30, Charles H. White, chemist and druggist, 3 Birmingham Road, Oldbury, was summoned under section 6 of the 1875 Act for selling strong solution of ammonia which was deficient in ammonia to the extent of 4.5 parts.

Mr. H. Jeffreys, who prosecuted, said on April 24 Police-sergeant Knott sent a young woman named Elsie Birch to defendant's shop with a written order for 1 lb. of strong solution of ammonia B.P., which should have a specific gravity of 0.891. The article served was labelled "Strong solution of ammonia 0.880," but upon analysis it was found that the ammonia was deficient to the extent of 4.5 parts, or a percentage of deficiency of 13.8. Mr. Jeffreys added that the Chairman of the Bench (Mr. G. E. Wilson) knew more about ammonia than he did, and would

be more acquainted with any suggestions that might be offered in extenuation.

Mr. J. S. Sharpe (for the defendant): I am going to ask first of all whether this is a food or a drug.

The Chairman: It is certainly not a food. (Laughter.)

Mr. Sharpe: Then the next question is whether it is a drug, because if it is not a drug the case does not come within the Act.

The Chairman: It is a drug.

Mr. Sharpe: I shall listen with very great respect to what you say about it.

The Chairman: Did you ever take ammonia to eat?

Mr. Sharpe: No, sir.

The Chairman: Quinine and ammonia is very commonly taken for influenza.

Mr. Sharpe: I understood it was sold for specific purposes and for cleaning clothes.

The Chairman: No doubt ammonia is a drug.

Sergeant Knott was called and gave evidence in support of Mr. Jeffreys' statement. Replying to Mr. Sharpe, he said that everything previously obtained from defendant was right except this, which is a most volatile substance.

Elsie Birch also gave evidence.

Replying to the Chairman, defendant said he had had the ammonia in stock since October 1, and the sample was taken out of a bottle which had been previously unopened.

Mr. Sharpe, addressing the Magistrates, said the ammonia was sold by the defendant precisely as it had been supplied to him, and they had been in correspondence with the vendors. He had no warranty because wholesale traders would not warrant this particular commodity, as it was so apt to deteriorate in the keeping. He was rather surprised to hear Mr. White say that the bottle from which the sample was taken had not previously been opened, but while that cut his argument one way it strengthened it in another, inasmuch as it proved that he sold it precisely as he had it from Messrs. Thornley. He bought it at 0.880 in order to be safe with regard to the standard required by the B.P.

The Chairman: "880" is the ordinary expression applied to strong ammonia. If you go to a druggist and ask for strong ammonia he will give you "880."

Mr. Sharpe, continuing, said he failed to understand how any negligence on defendant's part could have brought about the state of affairs. He submitted that the offence was merely technical, and justice would be met by the defendant being ordered to pay the costs.

The Chairman said the Magistrates were of opinion that this was a technical offence, and they would impose a nominal fine of 1*s.* and costs. They did not think the defendant was to blame in any way. Who was to blame they could not say. Ammonia was a very awkward material to handle, and he would advise the defendant to get something more definite from the vendors.

MERCURY OINTMENT.

At St. Augustine's Petty Sessions at Canterbury on May 27, Frederick H. Neale, chemist and druggist, Herne Bay, was summoned for selling mercury ointment which was deficient in mercury. Defendant, who was represented by Mr. Kirby (Messrs. Neve, Beck & Kirby, solicitors to the Chemists' Defence Association, Ltd.), pleaded not guilty.

Ivy Florence Skinner, daughter of a police sergeant, proved the purchase, and Police Superintendent Heard stated that he entered the shop shortly after he sent Miss Skinner in and she handed him a box of ointment. He told the defendant the mercury ointment had been purchased in order to be analysed by the public analyst. Defendant said, "I asked the girl what it was for and how much she wanted, but she hesitated." Defendant then said what he had sold to the girl was the dilute, and he asked witness whether he would let him have the box so that he might mark it "dilute." Witness told him he could not allow that. He then divided the ointment into three parts and sent one part to the county analyst (Mr. M. A. Adams), whose analysis was to the effect that the ointment contained mercury 14.4 and fatty matters 85.6 per hundred. According to the British Pharmacopœia it should contain 48.5 of mercury.

Mr. Kirby, in addressing the Bench, said he thought he was entitled to say that it was quite plain according to the pharmaceutical books from which he proposed quoting that there were two kinds of mercury ointment well known to pharmacists, and to some extent to the public. There was the strong mercury ointment as mentioned by the public analyst containing 48.5 per cent. of mercury, and a mild or diluted ointment which was about one-third of that strength in mercury, and which was what the defendant supplied in the present case. The defendant had had the portion of the sample which was left with him analysed, and it was found to contain 17.5 per cent. of mercury, but that difference in the analyses was accounted for by the fact that the ointment may not have been absolutely evenly mixed. He was not attacking the accuracy of the public analyst's report, but upon the evidence of the two analysts it was proved that the defendant had supplied the mild ointment which contained about one-third of the mercury found in the strong ointment. Mr. Kirby then quoted from text-books in order to show that the two ointments are recognised and known to pharmacists. Mercury ointment is such that he did not think it could be suggested that the defendant should have given the girl the strong ointment when she did not know the use of it. Under the circumstances he submitted it would be a very strong position to lay down that the defendant should have given the girl the strong ointment.

The Chairman of the Bench (Mr. F. H. Wilbee) asked whether the defendant could not have put on the label "not of B.P. strength."

Mr. Kirby replied that the defendant could have done so, but he was not summoned for not labelling the ointment, but for selling it to the prejudice of the purchaser. Seeing the diseases the ointment was applicable to, the defendant could not be expected to discuss it further with a young girl. He submitted that was very far from being a case of fraud or even of negligence on the part of defendant.

Defendant, on oath, stated that the girl asked for a box of mercury ointment. He asked her what it was for, but he got no answer. He could not pursue the question because of the uses which the ointment is put to. He asked her how much she wanted, and she said she would take twopenny-worth. He asked her if she wanted the strong, but he got no answer. He thought the girl more likely wanted the ointment for killing vermin than for the purposes for which the stronger is used, and he supplied the mild, believing that was the article required. If a doctor's prescription came in, he should have supplied only the strong ointment. Most wholesale houses listed both the strong and the mild, and on an invoice he had in February it was invoiced separately as strong and mild.

The Chairman: Is that which you sold the usual commercial strength?—Defendant: Yes.

You did not bring it to the customer's knowledge that it was not B.P. strength or that it was diluted?—No.

Replying to the Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. C. E. Kingsford), defendant said the ointment was usually known as "blue unction."

The Chairman: If one wanted full strength, what would he ask for?—Defendant: Mercury ointment. I took into consideration the appearance of the purchaser, and I thought I was doing right in supplying her with the mild.

Mr. Robert Croft, pharmacist, The Parade, Canterbury, and Mr. William Johnston, Ph.C. (London), gave corroborative evidence. The latter produced price-lists issued by Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, and by the British Drug Houses, Ltd., showing that both the strong and the mild ointments are listed. There was no mercury ointment listed without the words strong or mild being added. Since 1836 mercury ointment had been described as strong and mild, which terms are universally used. Both witnesses were cross-examined.

The Chairman, in announcing the decision of the Justices, said they found as a matter of fact that the article was not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded, also that it was not B.P. strength, and that it was not brought to the customer's knowledge before the sale was completed. There was no doubt it was a technical

offence, but they did not think there was any fraudulent intent on the part of the defendant. Subject to anything the Superintendent had to say, they considered the case would be met by payment of a nominal fine.

Superintendent Heard said the defendant was before the Court in November 1895, when he was fined 15s. and 12s. 6d. costs for selling spirit of nitrous ether which was under strength.

Mr. Kirby submitted that in view of what the Chairman had said, the Bench would be justified in dismissing the case.

The Chairman: The box could have been labelled "Not B.P. strength."

Mr. Kirby repeated that the summons was not for failing to label the box but for selling the ointment.

The Chairman announced that the defendant would be fined 10s. and 9s. costs.

Medicine Stamp Act.

AN UNLICENSED VENDOR.

At Baldock (Herts) last week, Thos. John Pettinger, of Salisbury Road, Baldock, was summoned for vending, exposing, and keeping ready for sale certain medicine liable to stamp duty, without having obtained a licence, on February 21. He was also summoned for selling unstamped a bottle of medicine, described as a "Pick-me-up." For the Excise authorities Mr. R. J. Beattie stated that the medicine sold as "Pick-me-up" bore a label on which were certain words which brought it within the Act. The magistrates imposed a fine of 10s.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

CLAUDE INKSTER, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 500l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, dealers in medical and surgical appliances and photographic, optical and scientific apparatus, etc. The first directors are H. P. C. Inkster, dispenser and accountant, W. E. Elton, chemist and druggist, and J. R. H. Inkster. R.O., 68 High Street, Sutton, Surrey.

MILLER & CO. (TUNBRIDGE WELLS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 2,000l., in 1l. shares (1,000 preference). Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical, medicinal, chemical, industrial, and other preparations, etc., and to adopt an agreement with Miller & Co. The first subscribers are R. A. Robinson, pharmacist, and E. Stonnell, pharmacist, both of 42 Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells.

Company News.

ABBEY EFFERVESCENT SALT CO., LTD.—Report of liquidator at meeting to be held at 4 St. Mary Axe, London, E.C., on June 27, at 4 P.M.

OZO INHALERS, LTD.—To be voluntarily wound-up. Liquidator: Mr. W. A. Pearce, 1 Broad Street Place, London, E.C. Meeting of creditors at above address on June 7, at noon.

A. J. WHITE, LTD.—The report for the year ending March 31 last, to be presented at the meeting on June 8, states that the net profits amount to 34,433l. After bringing forward 6,726l. from last year's accounts, and paying the preference dividend, amounting to 30,000l., there remains a balance of 11,159l., which the directors propose shall be carried forward.

BOOTS CASH CHEMISTS (EASTERN), LTD.—The report for the year to March 31 states that the year's profit amounts to 24,849l., as compared with 23,193l. last year. It is proposed to use the additional profit (1,656l.) by adding to the contingency fund and reserve funds, and in bringing the branch managers' (chemists') fund up to 20,000l. With the balance brought forward from last year of 10,547l. there is an available total of 35,397l. It is proposed to confirm dividends already paid, namely: On preference shares, 6 per cent.; on second preference shares, 5 per cent.; on ordinary shares, 12 per cent.; to add 638l. to general reserve (bringing that fund up to 70,000l.); 1,000l. to freehold reserve; to carry 754l. to contingency fund (making a total of 6,500l.); to allocate 200l. as donations to medical charities; to add 353l. to branch managers' (chemists') provident fund (making a total of 20,000l.); to pay 750l. for management expenses for the year, including managing directors' remuneration and directors' fees (free of income-tax), and to carry forward 11,101l.

General Medical Council.

THE ninety-ninth session of the Council was continued at the offices in Oxford Street, London, W., on Thursday, May 25, when

THE SANDOW INSTITUTE

figured prominently, consequent on the British Medical Association charging James Robertson Wallace, M.B., Pirbright, Surrey; Charles Edward Trimble, L.R.C.P. & S.E., L.F.P.S.G., Athol Lodge, Victoria Road, Twick-



DR. WALLACE.

MR. WALLIS.

MR. TRIMBLE.

enham; and Maurice Edmund Arnold Wallis, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., 68 Jermyn Street, London, S.W., with infamous conduct in a professional respect. The formulated charge against each was as follows:

"That you have associated yourself in your professional capacity with an institution, termed the Sandow Curative Institute, which systematically advertises for the purpose of procuring patients who are to receive, either by correspondence or by attendance at the said Institute, treatment for disease under the personal direction of Eugen Sandow, who is not a registered medical practitioner, and that you have approved of and acquiesced in such advertising."

The doctors all attended, accompanied by Lord Robert Cecil, K.C., and Mr. Neilson, their counsel, instructed by Mr. Guildford Lewis, solicitor. The Association was represented by Mr. Smith Whitaker, the Medical Secretary, accompanied by Mr. Hempson, solicitor. The Sandow advertisements and pamphlets which were put in covered the tables and supplied the members with a variety of entertaining literature. Mr. Smith Whitaker stated the case shortly; the main facts were, he said, not disputed. The doctors complained of were employed by Sandow as medical officers in his treatment of disease by physical exercise. Mr. Sandow at first advertised simply as an expert in physical culture, but now his Institute claimed to be curative. Extracts were given from the (as Lord Robert Cecil expressed it) flamboyant advertisements, which offer "health by post," and "health to all who are out of condition," well known to readers of the daily press. The duties of the medical officer were to examine the patients, to see whether they were fit for or likely to benefit by the treatment. The sole responsibility rested on Sandow, but the doctors saw the patients—or pupils, as they are called—now and then to see how they were going on, and to prevent any dangerous consequences, thus covering an unregistered person by their qualifications. Mr. Smith Whitaker tendered himself as a witness, but Lord Robert's cross-examination did not lead to much. Mr. Smith Whitaker, when pressed for a definition of "infamous" conduct, could only say that he should call infamous conduct what the General Medical Council, after due inquiry, would call infamous conduct. Mr. Wallis, who was recognised as the leader of the offenders, called and examined, said that he joined Sandow in 1907. He was desirous of conforming with the rules of professional etiquette, and made general inquiries. He was reassured by a letter from a well-known man to Sandow, saying: "I have made inquiries from the highest possible authorities, and am told that if the doctor simply acts as scientific superintendent of the Institute, and sees that the patients do not receive injury from the treatment, there is no objection to his employment by the company." His function was not to prescribe for but to protect the patients. The Institute was better than would appear from the advertisements. He did not think there was any char-

latancy or quackery, or anything to which medical men would object; many came themselves as pupils, and some 300 had sent patients there. The bulk of the patients came from the educated classes. Lately Sandow had been honoured by an appointment from the Crown. He (Mr. Wallis) was not ashamed of his connection with the Institute; he did not make it a channel for personal advertisement; he took no part in prescribing the treatment. Cross-examined as to the methods employed at the Institute, he said that Sandow sent on to him, for his advice, letters received from would-be patients which were thought to indicate ill-health. The utmost care was taken, and Sandow lost many patients by referring them to their own doctors. He saw about twenty fresh patients a day, and examined them and made a report as to their fitness for the treatment. He gave all his time to the Institute at a fixed salary. Questioned through the Chair as to the advertisements, he said that he had objected, but had made no condition as to advertising; he did not read them. A man in Sandow's position saw no harm in them. He had discovered a system of physical exercise, and had made a big business of it by advertising. Mr. Wallis was questioned at some length by members, through the Chair, particularly as to the twenty-four pseudo-medical booklets issued by Sandow, in which almost every disease under the sun is described as amenable to his treatment. Witness stated that he did not write any of them; he was applied to on some technical points, and he saw all the proofs. They were not, as far as he knew, intended as advertisements, only to give to patients. Dr. Wallace and Mr. Trimble, also examined and questioned, endorsed Mr. Wallis's evidence. Both denied knowledge of the books; they had seen but had not read the advertisements.

The case was adjourned until Friday, May 26, when Lord Robert Cecil made a telling speech for the defence. A letter was put in from Mr. Sandow in which he made the handsome offer that the Institute should be carried on in any way that the Council might approve, and that he was prepared to entrust the treatment to medical officers, and withdraw all advertisements of curing disease. Mr. Smith Whitaker having replied, the Council went into camera for three-quarters of an hour, and when the public were admitted the President announced to Mr. Maurice Wallis that the facts alleged against him had been proved, and that his name would be erased from the Medical Register. Dr. Wallace and Mr. Trimble were informed that the facts had been proved, but that the Council would postpone judgment till next session.

THE FIVE YEARS' CURRICULUM AGAIN.

The debate on the report of the Education Committee was resumed on Saturday, May 27, and after about two hours' discussion a recommendation in the report with regard to the recognition of the Preliminary examination of the Irish Conjoint Board and a motion against it were mutually waived in favour of a compromise. Sir Henry Morris's championship of the public schools as places for preliminary scientific study roused some strong expressions. Sir Henry asked the Council to withdraw its hostility to the scientific teaching at the great public schools, where, he said, it is as well, if not better, taught than in the "recognised" institutions. The President asserted that it is not a question of recognising the schools, but of safeguarding the five years' curriculum. Dr. Norman Moore declared that the present state of things brings the Council into contempt, and if it refused to register a student unless he is beginning his preliminary science at one of the "recognised" institutions, other bodies, the Conjoint Board, Oxford, Cambridge, and London Universities, do, and it will be only a matter of a year or two before the Council is forced by public opinion to give in. Drs. Langley Browne and Latimer warmly supported the Conjoint Board, the latter saying that the Council's conservative attitude was a drag on medical education. Four o'clock having arrived, the discussion was postponed till Monday.

For the first time under Sir Donald MacAlister's presidency the Council failed to get through the business of the session within the week, and carried it over to Monday. After the adoption of a recommendation as to the

extending of the Standing Orders so as to apply also to the removal of names from the Dentists' Register and the Medical Register (to prevent the possibility of an erased dentist being all unknowingly admitted to medical qualification),

THE REPORT OF THE PHARMACOPOEIA COMMITTEE

was brought up by the President as Chairman in very few words, and adopted. It was as follows:—

The Pharmacopoeia Committee report to the Council as follows:

From May 23, 1910, to May 20, 1911, the number of copies of the British Pharmacopoeia (1898) sold by the publishers was 533. The total number of copies sold in the year beginning May 23, 1910, was 1,078. The annual sale thus remains steady. Up to the present time 42,993 copies of the Pharmacopoeia and 4,502 copies of the Indian and Colonial Addendum have been sold. The stock of the Pharmacopoeia now in hand is reduced to thirty-six copies, and a fresh impression of 2,000 copies has been ordered to meet the continued demand.

A meeting of the conference of members of the committee with representatives of the Pharmaceutical Societies of Great Britain and of Ireland was held on May 20, 1911. A third report from the Committee of Reference in Pharmacy was presented in manuscript by its chairman, Mr. Walter Hills. This report, with a supplement which is in preparation, gives the results of the work done by the committee up to May 18, 1911, and completes the valuable series of contributions it has made to the improvement of pharmacopoeial pharmacy. The Pharmacopoeia Committee have ordered that the report and supplement shall be printed and published, and that copies shall be circulated among members of the Council and others interested, and communicated also to the medical and pharmaceutical journals.

The series of reports, together with the suggestions supplied by the British medical authorities at home and abroad and by other professional bodies, constitute the materials on which will be based the work of revising the Pharmacopoeia with a view to a new issue. The preparation of a draft text for the consideration of the committee will require the performance of much editorial work, and for this purpose it will be necessary to procure skilled assistance, both medical and pharmaceutical. The committee hope to complete during the summer their arrangements to this end.

The committee record with regret the death of Dr. John Attfield, F.R.S., who edited the current Pharmacopoeia (1898) and the Indian and Colonial Addendum (1900), and who also rendered efficient service as an editor of the issue of 1885 and the additions of 1890.

The Chairman remarked that it indicated the approach of the important step of preparing the first draft of the new Pharmacopoeia; this would take a considerable time, and would require able editorial assistance, which the committee were now seeking.

MEDICAL STUDENTS.

The discussion adjourned from Saturday on Sir Henry Morris' motion was resumed:

"That it be an instruction to the Students' Registration Committee that when a secondary school has been inspected and recognised by a licensing body such school shall be recommended to be placed on the list of approved institutions in which medical study may be commenced."

Dr. Mackay regretted the revival of the old controversy which raged so bitterly years ago. He hoped it might have been allowed to drop out gradually and be settled by a little judicious neglect. Since, however, it had been stirred up, he thought it only fair to the younger members to detail the past history of the five years' curriculum and the fight on its behalf since 1890. The schools in which science was taught were so numerous that it would be impossible to draw the line and grade them one from another; if the Council once began to recognise them there would be no limit, and he feared the standard would greatly fall. Sir Christopher Nixon thought that the Council having now found out that it had no authority over the licensing bodies and the teaching institutions they recommended, would be making a great mistake if it pressed for this petty parade of power which it had not got. Dr. McVail, Sir John Moore, and Sir T. Fraser, spoke against the motion, while Prof. Thomson was for it. Dr. McVail, the strongest opponent, had, however, like some other members, visited Epsom College, and had been much impressed with its scientific equipment. Finally a qualifying clause suggested by Sir Arthur

Chance, that if the Registration Committee were satisfied that the education reached a sufficiently high standard, the school should be recommended, etc., satisfied both sides, and this amendment was passed with only five dissentients.

THE NATIONAL INSURANCE BILL.

The President brought up the report of the committee appointed to consider this measure. It was incumbent on the Council, he said, that the Government should be duly impressed with the magnitude of the changes contemplated, and that safeguards should be introduced as far as possible. He moved the adoption of the committee's recommendation as follows:

(1) That (a) the Insurance Commission, (b) the Advisory Committee, (c) every local health committee, should include members who are duly qualified medical practitioners.

(2) That "medical benefit" and "maternity benefit" should be administered by the local health committees, and not by "approved societies."

(3) That in respect of the administration of "medical benefit" the "arrangements with duly qualified medical practitioners" made by the local health committees should be such as to admit of free choice of the medical practitioner on the part of the insured person; and that in respect of the administration of "maternity benefit" the like free choice of the medical practitioner or midwife on the part of the person receiving "maternity benefit" should be admitted.

(4) That in respect of the grant of subscriptions and donations to hospitals and other charitable institutions, contemplated in Clause 17 of the Bill, the governing conditions should be assimilated to those set forth in Clause 15 (1) with regard to the administration of "sanatorium benefit."

(5) That in respect of the provision to be made for "the supply of proper and sufficient drugs and medicines" under Clause 14 (2) the supply of proper surgical dressings and appliances should be included; and further, that steps should be taken to ensure that the drugs and medicines are of the standard required by the British Pharmacopoeia, and that the dispensing of prescriptions is carried out by qualified persons.

(6) That "medical benefit" should include provision for consultations and for operations when these are necessary.

(7) That, in the case of an insured woman, it should be made clear that "sickness benefit" accrues in addition to "maternity benefit"; and further, that in cases attended by a midwife the local health committee is empowered to pay for the attendance of a medical practitioner, should such attendance be called for by the midwife in accordance with the rules governing her practice.

(8) That in Clause 59 (7), applicable to Ireland, it should be made clear that "deposit contributors" are not limited in their choice of medical practitioners to the medical officers of health for dispensary districts.

Dr. Norman Moore was filled with admiration of the extraordinarily skilful way in which the President had kept within the power of the Council, and in this important expression of opinion had maintained the dignity and usefulness. The suggestion as to drugs and dressings was especially appropriate as the Council was the maker and guardian of the Pharmacopoeia. The recommendation was carried, and it was suggested that the report be sent at once to the Chancellor of the Exchequer as the second reading of the Bill was timed to come on that evening.

The Unqualified Practice Prevention Committee recommended:

"That having regard to the dangers to public health arising from the unrestricted practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons in this country, which are disclosed in the report issued by authority of the Privy Council Office, this Council urges on the Government the necessity of legislation for the better protection of the public, and offers its assistance in the framing of measures for the purpose."

This was carried, and after some routine business the Council retired into camera.

WILLS PROVEN.

MR. JOHN JAMES, 37 Vestry Road, Camberwell, London, S.E., chemist and druggist, who died, March 20, left estate valued at 213*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*

MR. JAMES FORBES, Rotherfield Avenue, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, formerly of Forbes, Abbott & Lennard, Ltd., chemical manufacturers, 85 Gracechurch Street, London, E.C., who died on March 14, left estate of the gross value of 14,540*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*, of which the net personalty has been sworn at 11,569*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*

Drug-trade Appeal Fund.

THE annual meeting of the subscribers of the above fund was held at St. Bride Institute, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C., on May 26. Mr. Walter Hills (Hon. Treasurer) occupied the chair in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Charles Umney in the North of England. There were also present Mr. C. B. Allen, Mr. C. J. G. Bunker, Mr. G. J. Knight, Mr. G. P. Pond, Mr. F. W. Truman, and Mr. T. Tyrer. The Secretary (Mr. W. Johnston) read the following Annual Report of the Trustees as follows:

"The Trustees have to report that during the financial year ending May 1911, no cases have arisen necessitating action by them. It will be noticed from the accompanying statement of accounts that the expenditure has exceeded the income by 57*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*, as the payment of the costs in the Edwards appeal case was made subsequent to the last financial report. The Trustees deeply regret to have to report the death of another of their number, Mr. Michael Carteighe, since last annual meeting."

The accounts showed an expenditure of 75*l.* 4*s.*, viz.: Appeal costs in Edwards case, 67*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*; legal advice, 6*s.* 8*d.*; stamps, 4*s.* 7*d.*; hire of room, 5*s.*; Secretary's honorarium, 5*l.* 5*s.*; bank charges, 1*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*. The income was 17*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*. The balance sheet for May 1911 shows a sum 728*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*, made up as follows: Consols (at 91½ per cent.), cost 600*l.*; cash at bank, current account 8*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*, deposit account 60*l.*; cash in hand, 1*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*; excess of expenditure over income, 57*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*

The Chairman said that the past year had been an uneventful one for the fund, the only point to call attention to was the payment of costs of the Edwards appeal case, which fell into the year under review. It meant that the Trustees had now got 60*l.* instead of 100*l.* on deposit at the bank. Mr. G. P. Pond moved the adoption of the report, and Mr. Truman, in seconding, mentioned that Consols were given in the accounts above their present value. The Chairman said the question of including Consols at cost or at the market value of the period was a perennial one. There were, as usual, two sides to the question. It was more convenient to put them down at cost, and the Trustees did not want to sell. Eventually, at the suggestion of Mr. Tyrer, it was agreed that the Secretary put in the present value of the stock as a marginal note. The report was then unanimously adopted. On the motion of Mr. G. J. Knight, the Trustees were re-elected, and Mr. C. B. Allen chosen to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Michael Carteighe. Votes of thanks to the Trustees and to the Chairman (who had specially come up from the Isle of Wight to take the chair) closed the proceedings.

At a subsequent meeting of Trustees, Mr. Charles Umney was re-elected Chairman, and Mr. C. B. Allen, Kilburn, was elected Treasurer in place of Mr. Walter Hills, who had been reluctantly compelled, owing to various circumstances, to resign that post. Mr. Hills was warmly thanked for his services.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

BOOTS LTD. have taken premises at Clacton-on-Sea, which are to be opened as a drug and fancy goods store.

MR. HORACE W. OAKLEY, pharmacist, has purchased the business of Mr. T. Crook, chemist, Six Ways, Smethwick.

MR. CHARLES COWLE, chemist and druggist, has acquired the business of Mr. J. Francis, chemist and druggist, at 23 Middle Street, Yeovil.

MR. R. V. SWEETMAN, Ph.C., has taken over his father's business at the Cross, Ludlow, and will carry it on in future in his own name.

BOOTS LTD. are opening a new branch in Whitley Road, Whitley Bay, a rising summer resort on the Northumbrian coast. The company has been conducting business in a branch of Inman's Stores, close by the new premises. The new shop is a double-fronted one situated in the main street.

DRUGS and chemical-products valued at 7,369*l.* were imported into Corunna during 1910, as compared with 13,151*l.* in 1909.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., June 1.

WITH the approach of the Whitsuntide holidays business shows signs of slackening off, but there is a fair amount of quiet trading going on. Mincing Lane is, however, suffering from financial troubles in rubber, which naturally react on other produce. The most interesting price-alterations this week include an advance in pyrogallol acid and eserine. Quinine is decidedly firmer and in improved demand. Carbolic acid is also firmer in several quarters. German saltpetre, ammonia sulphate, castor oil, and turpentine are all in buyers' favour. All tartar products are firm, especially tartaric acid; mineral-water makers have been busy, as shown by the good demand for lemon oil ex contract. Cascara sagrada is firmer. Cod-liver oil is lifeless and quotations nominal. Otto of rose is very firm, notwithstanding that we are on the eve of a new crop. Opium is neglected, pending new crop developments. Quicksilver is steady at last week's decline. The following are the principal changes of the week:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Carbolic acid	Pepper	Benzoin	Ammonia
Eserine	Quinine	(Sumatra)	sulphate
Guaiacum	(sec. hands)	Capsicums	Cardamoms
Kola		Castor oil	and seed
Pyrogallol		Copper	Honey
acid		sulphate	Saltpetre
Quillaia		Senna (Tinn)	Turpentine
		Turneric	

Cablegrams.

BERGEN, May 31.—Stormy weather has prevailed at Finmarken, and the cod-fishing has proved smaller. Market is dull at the equivalent of 108*s.* 6*d.* per barrel c.i.f. terms.

NEW YORK, June 1.—Business in drugs is fair. Opium is steady at \$5.70 per lb. for druggists' by single cases. Domestic refined camphor has declined 1c. per lb. in bulk. Sarsaparilla is firm at 19c. for Mexican. Hydrastis (golden seal) is firm at \$3.25. Cascara sagrada is firmer at 8½c. per lb. Jalap is nominal at 32c. Peppermint-oil in tins is easy at \$2.75, and guarana is lower at \$1.75 per lb.

London Markets.

BERGAMOT OIL.—An advice from Reggio in regard to bergamot oil reports a very firm and advancing market, the possibility of lower prices this season being remote. The stock in the hands of producers is said to be reduced to about 10,000 lb., which is extremely small so early in the season. In London 19*s.* per lb. net is quoted for pure in one quarter, and 18*s.* c.i.f.

A Palermo advice of May 27 reports that local buyers who were in urgent need of prompt goods have been obliged to pay an advance of 4 to 5 per cent., as sellers are reluctant to part with their goods in view of the poor results from the new production.

CAPRICUMS easier at auction; 42 bags Japan sold at 45*s.* for fine bold red off-stalk; 185 packages Bombay cherries were offered and bought in at 40*s.*

CARBOLIC ACID.—Crude carbolie is firmer, makers now asking an advance of about 1d. per gallon, 60 per cent. offering at 1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d. on the East Coast and 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 9d. on the West Coast. Ordinary ice crystals are also firmer in several directions at 6d. per lb. for 39° to 40° C. ice crystals (B.P.) in 3-cwt. drums and overcasks. *Cresylic* (97 to 99 per cent.) is quoted 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. per gallon.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Private advices from New York are of a bullish character, and it is quite anticipated that with the autumn prices will be on a much higher level, judging from the firmness on the Pacific Coast. In the drug auction 38 bags of fair six year old bark was firmly held at 38s., a bid of 36s. being refused; and for 100 bags one year old 37s. was wanted.

CASTOR OIL is easier, Hull make of pharmaceutical quality offering for July-December delivery at 30l. 10s., and first pressing at 28l. per ton in barrels, delivered free on wharf London. French of finest medicinal quality is quoted 39s. 6d. in cases, and 37s. 6d. in barrels, on the spot. In Liverpool good seconds Calcutta is quoted at 35½d. per lb., first pressing Belgian at 3½d., and 3½d. for East Indian, all on the spot.

CHAULMOOGRA OIL.—There has been some inquiry on behalf of the British Government for about 5 cwt., but in the open market there is very little offered, 2s. 6d. per lb. being asked for a limited quantity.

CHILLIES steady; at auction 76 bags Nyasaland were sold, including fair bright at 45s. and dark red at 40s.; 20 mats fair Zanzibar also sold at 36s. 6d.; 78 bags large bright Japan were bought in at 60s.

CINCHONA.—Further particulars in regard to the Amsterdam auction to be held on June 8, show that the 7,307 packages to be offered weigh 634,444 kilos., containing the equivalent of 33,958 kilos. of quinine sulphate. The weight of the manufacturing bark is 564,800 kilos., the quinine content being equivalent to 36,631 kilos., while the druggists' bark weighs 69,644 kilos. and contains 2,277 kilos. of quinine sulphate. The average quinine percentage of the manufacturing bark is 6.50, against 6.09 in April and 6.30 in March. In the drug auction a nice bright parcel of 19 serons of Huanuco was offered, but the bulk was slightly water-damaged. A single seron of sound was bought in at 10d.

CINNAMON.—At the quarterly auction on Monday 193 bales Ceylon plantation were offered, of which only 32 bales sold at unaltered rates, as follows: Ceylon worked, fine to superior firsts, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d., and fair, 11½d. to 1s.; good to superior thirds, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d., and fair fourths 8½d. per lb.; of Ceylon unworked, 124 bales offered, and four sold at 10½d. for fair first sort. Of broken cinnamon, etc., 337 packages offered, and 23 sold, including broken, and pieces at 8½d. and chippings at 3d. per lb.

CITRIC ACID is steady at 1s. 3½d. per lb. for either English or foreign.

CLOVES.—At auction 17 cases Penang sold without reserve at 11d., being steady; 37 bales Zanzibar were bought in at 7½d. Privately Zanzibar remain quiet. June-August delivery has been sold at 6½d., and October-December is quoted 6½d., for arrival August-October shipment quoted 5½d.

COD-LIVER OIL is a lifeless market, and prices are nominally unaltered at between 110s. and 115s. c.i.f. London, and on the spot 112s. 6d. to 115s. will buy new oil.

Our Bergen correspondent writes on May 29 that the Finmarken cod-fishing is still going on, and for the past week gave pretty favourable results. The number of fishermen taking part in the fishing is, however, decreasing. The official report give the following quantities up to May 29:

	1908	1909	1910	1911
Catch of cod (millions) ...	44.3	52.7	50.5	58.5
Yield of c.l.o. (hect.) ...	54,800	47,200	37,950	39,050
Liver for "raw" oils (hect.)	24,000	25,840	16,140	11,240

On the market there is but little business to report at present, and the quotation is quite nominal. Finest non-congealing Lofoten oil is worth about 108s. 6d. per barrel c.i.f. London.

According to cabled statistics received from Norway, the catch and output of cod-liver oil up to May 27, as compared with the corresponding period of 1910, is as follows:

		Catch of Cod.	Livers for Raw Oil (hect.)	Yield of c.l.o. (hect.)
Finmarken ...	1911...	23,860,000	5,979	15,300
" ...	1910...	18,227,000	7,322	10,294
Whole Country ...	1911...	58,500,000	11,243	39,059
" ...	1910...	50,500,000	16,148	37,941

COPPER SULPHATE is easier to the extent of 10s. per ton, ordinary Liverpool brands offering for prompt delivery at 23l., and at 22l. for last half June delivery.

CREAM OF TARTAR remains firm at the previous rates of 95s. for 98 per cent., and 93s. for 95 per cent., powder.

The exports from Bordeaux (according to the British Consul) during the past three years have been as follows:

	1908	1909	1910
Total ...	Tons 1,825	Tons 2,537	Tons 2,574
To U.K. ...	1,600	2,273	2,398

Of crude tartar and crystals the exports were: 1908, 1,842 tons; 1909, 2,036 tons; and 1910, 1,668 tons, of which in 1909 258 tons were shipped to U.K., against 410 tons in 1910.

CRUBES.—There has been some inquiry for export, but the quantity of genuine berries on offer is only small.

ERGOT.—There is no ease in the prevailing stringent conditions, and so far there appears to be no reasonable offers of the new crop Spanish, except at about 5s. 3d. c.i.f. Spot sales in quite a retail way have been made at 5s. 6d. per lb. for Spanish. In the drug auction a single bag (36 lb.) of fair Continental (apparently Austrian) sold at 5s. per lb.

ESERINE.—Owing to the scarcity of calabar beans, the price of eserine sulphate has advanced about 60 per cent., makers quoting from 4s. 6d. to 5s. per gram.

GINGER.—At auction 70 cases and 897 bags Cochín and Calicut offered, and 200 bags sold at steady rates, including bold bright and medium washed Cochín at 40s. to 41s. 6d. Bold brown Calicut rough was bought in at 52s. 6d.

LEMON JUICE.—English raw is somewhat scarce at from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per gallon.

LEMON OIL.—The fine warm weather has kept mineral-water makers busy, and much freer deliveries have taken place ex contracts. From 5s. to 5s. 3d. is quoted on the spot, and 5s. 2½d. c.i.f.

An advice from Palermo dated May 27 reports a firm market, and it is not anticipated that orders will be filled in the near future at prices below those ruling to-day.

OPIMUM is unaltered, but business, as is usual between seasons, is wanting, buyers preferring to wait crop developments. On the spot Turkey druggists' is offered at from 16s. 3d. to 16s. 6d. per lb., at which prices holders are firm in view of primary market conditions, where prices are still above the parity of the London market. With an order in hand it is possible selected tale quale, testing 11.75 to 12 per cent. morphine (Harrison), could be bought at 16s. 6d. per lb. f.o.b. Smyrna. As regards prices of the new crop, it is believed that the new arrivals will cause a decline of several shillings, and the opening price may be anything between 13s. and 14s. 6d. per lb. As regards new crop outlook, since the frost period the weather has been very favourable, and although the summer sowings on account of the later winter were made about one month later than usual, it is believed that the crop will be about 5,000 cases if everything goes well until harvest time. Persian continues a strong market at 16s. 6d. on the spot, and at 16s. 6d. c.i.f. for June-July shipment, and bids of 3d. less have been refused for usual 10 per cent. morphine.

A Smyrna correspondent writes on May 19 that last week's activity has been followed up by further sales of 67 cases at 8d. per lb. advance all round. The U.S.A. have taken 58 cases extra Karahissar at 17s., and speculators 9 cases ditto at 17s. to 17s. 2d. per lb. The reports from growers predict an outturn of from 3,000 to 3,500 cases, which, if correct, prices will further advance later on. Market closes very firm with speculative buyers. The arrivals to date amount to 4,541 cases, against 1,950 cases at the same period last year.

A Constantinople advice dated May 27 reports that last winter, frost having set in too early, a large portion—about two-thirds—of autumn seedlings have been destroyed. The new crop, consisting, therefore, mostly of spring seedlings, will amount to only about 5,000 cases, or half of last year's crop,

judging by the present development of the plants. In these circumstances a higher market is perceivable even from now, and the present prices will hold, as far as we can see. At all events, there are no prospects of prices declining; they will rather advance.

OTTO OF ROSE keeps very firm, with an undoubted scarcity of pure quality on the spot, the nominal price of which is about 35s. to 36s. per English ounce.

A Bulgarian correspondent, writing on May 26, says: The rose-harvest has just begun in the most southern localities of the rose district. This year it is fully ten days backward on account of the late winter. Even now the weather is still extremely cool, as the mountain highest peaks are still covered with snow. The outlook of the crop is fair and even satisfactory, though in many localities, and chiefly in the lowlands, the bushes have been considerably damaged by the late winter frosts. Last year's blight also, which stripped the bushes of their leaves, left them rather weak, and on this account the rose-bushes have a rather sterile appearance, showing clusters of three, five, and seven buds only. In consequence, only an average crop is expected. The weather during the last fortnight has been exceedingly propitious and has considerably improved the prospects of the crop. It is chiefly the weather during the harvest that mainly makes and unmakes a rose-crop. Official statistics just published show that the otto of rose exported since last June exceeds 150,000 oz. The exports for the last four years have been as follows: 172,000 oz. (about 4,913 kilos.) in 1897; 171,000 oz. (about 4,878 kilos.) in 1908; 195,500 oz. (about 5,579 kilos.); and last year considerably over 150,000 oz.

PYROGALLIC ACID.—The makers have come to a fresh agreement, which includes a maker who has hitherto held aloof from the convention. Prices have been advanced about 8*d.* per lb.

QUICKSILVER is unchanged at 8*l.* 5*s.* per bottle from the leading importer and at 8*l.* 1*s.* from second-hands, at which prices the market has assumed a steadier feeling. The arrivals comprise 5,000 flasks from Spain and 240 from Italy.

QUILLAIA is about 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* per cwt. higher, spot holders asking from 22*s.* 6*d.* to 25*s.*, and crushed is from 28*s.* to 30*s.*, according to quality. In Liverpool business has lately been done at 23*s.*, the offerings being limited.

QUININE is from $\frac{1}{8}$ *d.* to $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per oz. dearer, the appreciation being due to the higher prices paid at the Amsterdam quinine auction, and the smaller offerings of bark at Amsterdam next week (when an advance is expected in the average unit). A fair business has been done from second-hands in Java make at 6*d.* to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, and sellers now ask 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*; in fact, it would be difficult to buy at the lower figure. Amsterdam make is quoted 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to 7*d.* and German 7*d.* The agents for the B. and S. make reports having booked several contracts at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* A line of 100,000 oz. quinine salts was shipped to Madras last week.

At the Amsterdam auction on May 26 the equivalent of 50,000 oz. Ed. II. were offered, and sold at an average price of fl.10.48 per kilo., against fl.10.26 per kilo. at the previous auction. The next sale will be on June 16, when 50,000 oz. Ed. II. will be offered.

SALTPETRE.—A reduction of 1*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. is announced in German refined saltpetre, the prices ranging from 20*s.* 9*d.* to 21*s.* 9*d.* per cwt., according to package. French competition is understood to be the cause of the decline. English makers quote barrels at 24*s.* and kegs at 25*s.* per cwt.

SHELLAC remains very quiet, but prices are steady, fair TN orange offering at from 71*s.* to 72*s.*, and to arrive, there are sellers of June-July shipment at 71*s.* c.i.f.

SOYA-OIL.—In view of the exorbitant prices ruling for linseed-oil, trade prospects for soya-oil, which is being used pretty largely as a substitute for the former, are considered favourable, although prices have been adjusted to a lower level in order to stimulate the outlet. The current value of soya-oil in London is now about 29*l.*, or 6*l.* 10*s.* per ton under the highest value this year. Prices for raw material are still held at a comparatively high level in sympathy with the rather stiff terms maintained by Manchurian shippers, who apparently are able to realise better prices locally than on this side. Eastern trade requirements this season are expected to be on a large scale, the shipments to Japan alone this year being estimated as likely to reach 900,000 tons of beans and cake combined. The Manchurian crop is expected to yield $\frac{1}{2}$

million tons, or $\frac{1}{4}$ million tons more than last season. The total receipts at Vladivostok for the six months to the end of April were 258,000 tons. The efforts which have been made in India for some time past to extend the cultivation of the soya bean have not proved very successful. At any rate, the exports from that quarter do not promise to be important after covering native requirements, but experiments, on the other hand, have, it is reported, met with excellent results in Ceylon, under Government supervision. The future of the article in the oil and other trades has also encouraged cultivation in the Caucasus, where a considerable quantity is expected to be produced this year, which should find a good outlet in the European market, while freight facilities would ensure to Russian growers a substantial margin of profit.

TARTARIC ACID remains firm and in good demand, English make offering at 1*s.* 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*, and foreign at 1*s.* 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.* per lb.

TONKA BEANS.—In further reference to the paragraph on tonka beans taken from the British Consul's report for 1910, and published in last week's *C. & D.* (p. 68), it may be pointed out that the Consul's estimate of from 80,000 lb. to 100,000 lb. for the 1911 crop is placed too high, it being considered that the prices now asked for tonka beans would not be possible if there were such large quantities available this season as he indicates. It is possible to buy Angosturas in limited quantity to consumers only at 17*s.* per lb. net on the spot and black Paras at 11*s.* 6*d.*

TURMERIC.—Privately the market has been easier, the sales including fair Madras finger at 27*s.*, and Bengal at 21*s.* 6*d.* on the spot. Cochin split bulbs are offered at 15*s.* per cwt., spot.

TURPENTINE is weak and lower by about 5*s.* per cwt. on the week, closing at 44*s.* for American on spot. For July-December 39*s.* 3*d.* has been paid.

VANILLIN is firm at the convention rates, which are from 13*s.* 10*d.* to 14*s.* 9*d.* per lb., according to quantity.

London Drug-auctions.

The next auctions will be held on June 29.

New and second-hand drugs were offered to-day, but there was a feeling of indifference and lassitude on the part of buyers, and only a small proportion of the goods sold, the preponderance of changes in value being in favour of buyers. Ales of all descriptions is dull of sale, including Cape, slices of which were unwilling to give way. Round buchu was firmly held, with hand-to-mouth buying for consumption. Sumatra benzoin is a little more plentiful, with slightly modified limits on the part of importers. Cardamoms were 2*d.* to 3*d.* lower, especially for Ceylon-Mysore. Heavy arrivals of calumba proved mostly of poor quality, and the drug meets with a slow sale. Dragon's-blood and gamboge are neglected. Honey was irregular, but 2*s.* to 3*s.* per cwt. cheaper. Ipecacuanha is steady, East Indian being in demand; Matto Grosso was not offered, and is scarce privately. Rhubarb remains easy. Tinnevely senna was easier, but for grey Jamaica and Lima sarsaparilla fully previous prices were paid, while native was easier for the poorer qualities. Beeswax was flat, especially Jamaica. The following table shows the quantities of goods offered and sold, the asterisk denoting private sales:

Offered		Sold		Offered		Sold	
Albumen (hen).....	5	...	0	Cascara sagrada ...	307	...	0
Aloes—				Cascarilla	23	...	0
Cape	36	...	4	Cashew-nuts.....	15	...	0
Curacao (cs)	35	...	21	Cassia oil	5	...	0
Socotrine (kegs)	32	...	0	Cassia fistula	25	...	0
Zanzibar	15	...	0	Cinchona (Huanuco)	19	...	0
Anise (Russ.)	20	...	0	Cinnamon oil	12	...	0
Annatto seed	35	...	0	Coca-leaves	72	...	63
Argol (Cape)	6	...	0	Coriander seed.....	10	...	0
Areca	18	...	0	Cuttlefish-bone ...	193	...	0
Asafetida	33	...	0	Dill-seed	67	...	0
Balsam tolu	10	...	0	Dragon's-blood.....	22	...	*1
Peru	2	...	0	Ergot	1	...	1
Benzoin—				Eucalyptus oil.....	17	...	0
Sumatra.....	131	...	42	Gamboge	31	...	0
Buchu	£2	...	9	Guaiaacum	5	...	5
Calumba	405	...	54	Gum acacia	27	...	0
Camphor (Ch. cr.)	20	...	0	Honey—			
Camphor (Jap. ref.)	35	...	0	Cuban.....	18	...	10
Canella alba	15	...	0	Hayti.....	111	...	111
Cannabis indica	21	...	0	Jamaica	243	...	243
Cardamoms & seed	367	...	116	N.Z.	50	...	0
				San Domingo ...	55	...	53

Offered Sold		Offered Sold	
Ipecacuanha—		Sarsaparilla—	
Cartagena.....	7 ... 1	Grey Jam.....	7 ... 7
Johore.....	48 ... 19	Lima.....	25 ... 25
Minas.....	6 ... 0	Native Jam.....	46 ... 25
Kamala.....	3 ... 0	Senna and pods—	
Kola.....	1 ... 1	Alex.....	56 ... 15
Lime-juice.....	9 ... 8	Tinnevely.....	359 ... 132
Lime oil.....	1 ... 0	Tamarinds.....	54 ... 8
Musk (pkgs.).....	3 ... 0	Tragacanth.....	4 ... 0
Myrrh.....	35 ... 0	Turmeric.....	268 ... 3
Nux vomica.....	40 ... 40	Wax (bees)—	
Orange oil (cprs.)	4 ... 0	China.....	18 ... 0
Orange-peel.....	13 ... 0	East African.....	23 ... 10
Orchella-weed.....	7 ... 0	East Indian.....	75 ... 10
Orris.....	21 ... 1	Jamaica.....	28 ... 0
Puree.....	8 ... 0	Madagascar.....	261 ... 35
Quince-seed (Cape)	1 ... 1	Morocco.....	27 ... 0
Rhubarb (China)...	54 ... 4	Mozambique.....	40 ... 14
Rose-petals.....	2 ... 0	Siamish.....	21 ... 0
Scablae.....	20 ... 0	South Amer.....	13 ... 0
Seedlae.....	27 ... 0	Zanzibar.....	71 ... 65

ALOES.—Dull of sale. Of Cape, 34 cases were bought in; 34s. was refused for good bright hard firsts Mossel Bay (20 per cent. tares) and 32s. 6d. for good seconds; two cases ordinary drossy seconds sold at 30s. and an odd lot of two cases realised 29s. for slightly drossy seconds. Of 35 boxes Curaçao offered, 21 sold at 54s. per cwt. for fair livery, 50s. for dullish liver, 32s. for bright capey, and 24s. for coarse dark and dull.

BALSAM TOLU.—A lot of seven cases large tins soft of very fair flavour was firmly held at 1s. 1½d., and slightly drossy at 1s. 1d., and in another instance 1s. 1d. was wanted for good hard old-fashioned in large tins.

BENZON.—Sumatra has been arriving more freely, and importers have slightly reduced their limits. The chief sale was one of 38 cases good Sumatra reddish thirds, which sold at from 5l. 10s. to 5l. 17s. 6d. per cwt., subject to sellers' approval. Four cases of fair alomdy Sumatra sold at 8l. 7s. 6d.

BUCHU.—Steady. Of 14 bales (usual size) round offered, four sold at 4s. 6d. for good green, slightly stalky, 4s. 4d. subject for inferior and very stalky, and 4s. 5d. for slightly oil-damaged; common yellow round (2 bags) sold at 3s. subject. Of 10 packages longs offered, two were sold at from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. for fair greenish. Stuff adulterated with klip buchu was held at 1s. Ovals were limited at from 1s. 10d. to 2s. 3d. as to quality. A large proportion of the longs offered on the market are mixed with klip and chopped stems, which renders them useless for the American market. The usual Cape boat brought 15 bales this week.

CALUMBA has been arriving freely, about 800 bags having come to hand within the past fortnight, but the quality is by no means satisfactory. Two bags ordinary dark natural sorts sold at 25s., and 40 bags of fair washed sorts realised from 29s. to 29s. 6d. per cwt. Twelve bags small to bold fair washed sold without reserve at from 28s. to 30s. per cwt.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Fair genuine Bombay tops were held at 5s. 2d. per lb.

CARDAMOMS met with a dragging demand at a decline of from 1d. to 2d. per lb. on Ceylon-Mysore, which was less marked on Calicut description. Ceylon-Mysore, good bold pale, 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d.; bold and medium pale, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d.; medium palish to pale, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 5d.; small and medium, 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d.; small pale, 1s. 9d.; splits, medium, 1s. 9d.; tiny pale, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. Seed 1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d.; East Indian (Calicut) extra bold pale, 3s. 1d. to 3s. 2d.; medium and bold palish, 2s. 10d.; medium and small palish, 2s. 5d. to 2s. 6d.; bold dull, 2s. 9d.; medium ditto, 2s. 7d.; small 2s. 3d. Splits, bold pale, 1s. 11d.; brown and split and pickings, 1s. 9d. to 1s. 11d.

CASSIA FISTULA.—A parcel of 25 bags fair Dominican pod, part rattly, was held at the much higher figure of 40s. per cwt.

COCA-LEAVES.—A parcel of 65 bags of greenish Java siftings sold at 10½d. per lb. and ordinary at 8½d. per lb. For two bales of fair Indian (Truxillo character) a bid of 9½d.

is to be submitted, and for 5 bales of Truxillo of fair green quality 1s. was wanted.

DILL SEED.—A lot of 76 bags East Indian was bought in at 14s. 6d. per cwt.

GAMBOGE.—Quiet. A string of 21 cases good Siam pipe, slightly blocky, was firmly held at 13l. per cwt.

GUAIACUM dearer. Four cases of fair, slightly drossy, sold at from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. per lb.

HONEY sold at irregular but generally lower prices, from 2s. to 3s. per cwt., especially for San Domingo and Hayti descriptions. A lot of 53 packages San Domingo of fairly uniform quality sold at 30s. for nice pale set, darkish to fair set and setting at from 26s. to 28s. Of Hayti, 111 barrels and casks sold, including set and setting brown, at from 25s. to 26s. 6d., and pale set at 28s. per cwt. Of 18 casks Cuban, ten casks sold at 31s. for palish liquid and 29s. for brown liquid. A considerable quantity of Jamaica sold, comprising fine pale brown set and setting (cases), 37s. 6d. to 38s.; ditto (barrels), 36s. to 37s. 6d.; fair to good setting brown, 31s. to 34s.; darkish to dark brown setting, 28s. to 30s.; good pale set 31s to 31s. 6d.; good bright amber liquid, 36s. to 37s.; darkish to fair ditto, 33s. 6d. to 35s. 6d.; and dark liquid, 27s.

IPECACUANHA.—Steady. The feature was the offering of the new lot of 48 bales East Indian, 19 bales of which sold at 7s. 9d. per lb., and it was afterwards reported that the broker had cleared the remainder of his catalogue at this figure. Sea-damaged (3 bales) sold at from 5s. 11d. to 6s. 7d. A bag of Cartagena realised 6s. 10d., being cheap, and in another instance 9 packages were bought in at from 7s. 6d. to 8s.; cultivated Minas was also bought in at from 7s. 9d. to 8s. Matto Grosso was not offered, and privately it is scarce, 9s. being wanted in one direction.

KOLA.—A single bag of fair dried West Indian, all that offered, sold at 4½d. per lb., being dearer.

LIME JUICE.—Eight puncheons sold at from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. for fair bright West Indian raw, the lower price being for part ullaged.

NUX VOMICA.—Forty bags of fair thick from Saigon sold at 7s. 9d. per cwt. for fair thick.

ORRIS.—A single seron of lean Mogador sold at 28s. per cwt.

QUINCE SEED.—A single bag of fair Cape realised 2s. 10d. per lb., being slightly easier than previous sale.

RHUBARB.—Quiet. A parcel of twenty cases small to bold flat High-dried offered, of which two cases sold at 7d. for half fair fracture, and half dull and dark, dull coated and wormy. A case of fair Shensi pickings with ¾ good pinky fracture, part spongy, sold without reserve at 10d. per lb. Medium size round Canton was held at 11d., small round and druggists' trimming root at 1s., and medium to bold horny High-dried at 7½d. per lb. Privately, bold flat High-dried with ¾ good pinky fracture has been sold at 10½d. and small at 9½d., which prices were asked in auction for similar quality.

SARSAPARILLA.—Grey Jamaica being scarce, the seven bales offered sold readily at 1s. 9d. for fair part roughish. Eleven bales Lima-Jamaica sold at 1s. 1d. per lb., and a further 16 bales at 1s. 1d. also being steady. Honduras (Crown F.G.) was bought in at 1s. 5d. Native Jamaica was in demand, the sales including good red 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d., fair red 1s. 1d., ditto slightly mixed 1s. per lb., ordinary dull, 8d., and common dull mixed 6d. to 7½d. per lb.

SENNA.—The tendency was easier for Tinnevely, about one-third of the quantity offered being sold. Small common leaf realised from 1d. to 1½d., small ordinary specky 1½d., middling greenish to fair medium size greenish 2d. to 2½d., boldish but dull green 2d., Pods, mostly dark, 1½d. to 1¾d. per lb. Of Alexandrian senna, 64 packages offered and seven sold at 3½d. for siftings and 5½d. for fair palish pods; half leaf was bought in at 4½d.

WAX (BEES').—Quiet. Of 71 bales Zanzibar, 65 sold at 6l. 18s. 9d. per cwt. subject, for fair-block to part dark; of 261 mats Madagascar, 35 sold at 7l. 2s. 6d. per cwt. Four cases of fair bleached Calcutta sold at 7l. 12s. 6d. per cwt., being steady, and 14 bags of common drossy Mozambique broken ball and small pieces sold at from 6l. 12s. 6d. to 6l. 15s. Six cases Bombay realised 6l. 7s. 6d. per cwt. No

Jamaica sold, 25 packages being bought in at 7l. 15s. per cwt. Privately good Mozambique pipe has been sold at 7l. 10s. per cwt. At auction in Liverpool 44 blocks of Sierra Leone sold at 7l. 2s. 6d. per cwt.

Manchester Chemical Market.

May 30.

With the near approach of Whitsuntide holidays business in this district quietens down almost automatically. There is less demand to note in heavy chemicals, especially on home account. Prices, however, are well maintained all round. In sulphate of copper there has been another advance in the raw metal, which has again stiffened prices for prompt delivery, and makers are acting with caution. For prompt delivery prices here are about 24l. 2s. 6d. to 24l. 12s. 6d. delivered Manchester; for June delivery, 22l. 10s. to 23l. 10s.; and July, 20l. 2s. 6d. to 20l. 7s. 6d. There has been more inquiry for borax, lump being quoted 16l. per ton. Alum is quietly steady. Green copperas is in fair demand at 37s. 6d. to 40s. per ton f.a.s. Manchester Ship Canal, and 42s. 6d. to 45s. per ton f.o.b. Liverpool. Glauber salts, 42s. 6d.; Epsom salts, 60s. per ton in bags and 65s. to 80s. per ton in casks and barrels for export. White powdered arsenic, 10l. 15s. per ton delivered Manchester. Aniline oil, pure, 5½d., and salts, 5¼d. to 5½d. Sulphur quietly steady: flowers, 3l. 10s. in 2-cwt. bags; roll, 6l. 12s. 6d. in 3-cwt. barrels; rock, 5l. 5s. in 3-cwt. bags; and recovered sulphur, 4l. 17s. 6d. to 5l. per ton, all on rails at makers' works. There is no change in pot and pearl ash prices. Chlorate of potash is quiet. Cream of tartar and tartaric acid still on the easy side. In coal-tar products, sulphate of ammonia is slow at 12l. 10s. to 12l. 11s. 3d. per ton on rails Manchester.

Heavy Chemicals.

There is a considerable activity in the heavy-chemical market both on home and export account, and the tone of the market all round is steady.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is on the quiet side, and with a poor demand for prompt, prices rule lower. Present nearest figures are: Beckton, 25-per-cent. ammonia, guaranteed, May-June, 12l. 17s. 6d.; London tines, 12l. 10s.; Leith, 13l. 7s. 6d.; Liverpool, 13l. 5s.; and Hull, 13s. 2s. 6d.

ALUMINA PRODUCTS.—With the consuming trades well employed there is a good demand both on miscellaneous and contract account. Exports too are a good average. Prices are on the steady, though low, side. Crystal alum lump, 5l. 5s. to 5l. 15s.; lump, in tierces, 5l. 10s. to 6l.; and ground, in bags, 5l. 15s. to 6l. 5s. per ton, free on rails Lancashire or Yorkshire, or f.o.b. Hull, Goole, or Liverpool. Sulphate of alumina, purest qualities, practically free of iron, ordinary strength quality, 4l. 12s. 6d. to 5l. 2s. 6d. per ton in casks, with usual allowances for bags and loose slabs, and customary extras for similar pure quality in higher concentrations. Aluminous cake, 50s. to 57s. 6d. Aluminio-ferrie, 50s. to 57s. 6d. per ton, according to quality, quantity, and destination.

Indian Turpentine.

The quarterly issue of the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute" contains some valuable commercial information in regard to Indian turpentine, samples of which were forwarded to the Imperial Institute by the Assistant Conservator of Forests at Naini Tal, United Provinces. The oil was stated to have been prepared at the Government turpentine-oil distillery at Naini Tal from the oleo-resin of the "chir" pine (*Pinus longifolia*), and it was desired to ascertain its value as compared with the turpentine oils of commerce. As the result of examination it was found that the samples closely resembled Russian turpentine oil among those on the English market, but the Russian product is very variable in composition, and in this respect the Indian oil would have an advantage. Samples were submitted to importers and varnish-makers. The importers stated that the odour of the oil differed from that of American turpentine oil, and that an expert to whom they submitted it without stating its origin considered it to be a mixture of French and Russian oils. They valued the product at 30l. to 40l. per ton in London (October 1910). The varnish-makers reported that the oil resembled Russian turpentine, and would have a similar value—i.e., about half that of American oil. They added that the present value of American oil was about 55l. per ton in London (November 1910), and they did not see any reason to anticipate any fall in prices. It is suggested that the Indian oil could be used in place of Russian oil, which is widely employed for the cheaper grades of varnish for black lacquers and for making certain disinfectants. Information has been asked for from India as to the possibility of developing an export trade at the prices quoted. [An attempt was made over twenty-five years ago, and we had some correspondence with Indian authorities more recently. In both instances no assurance of constant supply could be obtained. What is wanted is English money and English supervision for distilleries in India.—EDITOR C. & D.]



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest. Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co. v. Lawton.

SIR,—Our attention has been called to the report of this case in your last issue, and we desire to point out that the statement that "the jury failed to agree and were discharged without returning a verdict" was incorrect. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiffs on claim and counterclaim, and judgment was entered accordingly with costs.

Yours, etc.,

WELFARE & WELFARE,

Solicitors for Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co.

May 26, 1911.

Proprietary Medicines in Russia.

SIR,—In your issues of April 29 and May 6 there appeared notes pertaining to the order issued by the Inspector-General of Health of Russia granting permission to Russian pharmacists to copy the formulæ and titles of preparations that have been admitted to enter Russia from abroad. In the leading article in the first English newspaper in Russia "Friendship," just published in St. Petersburg, it is said that Russians are not a pugnacious and warlike nation. Fully admitting the existence of this trait in the Russian character, I wonder whether it would not have been better to the interests at large to be a warlike nation and fight others who do wrong instead of doing wrong ourselves and so cause others to fight us? True enough, we never made an onslaught on the Japanese, but we gave them sufficient cause to fight us.

Yours very truly,

St. Petersburg.

D. A. RUFFMANN.

National Insurance Bill.

SIR,—I was much struck by the appearance, side by side, of your remarks on the above Bill and the various advertisements of packed specialities. Do the wholesale houses realise that there will be no "own preps." of anything approaching a medical nature? Are they examining their stocks and calculating their losses? If so, do they propose to make any move in the matter or merely to wait for the friendly societies' drug contract? I can imagine the passionate affection of chemists for such contractors and examination of quality guarantee.

Yours, etc.,

Maidenhead.

J. R. HEXWOOD.

SIR,—This matter has been receiving careful attention, a special meeting of the Law Committee having been held to consider the bearing of the measure upon pharmacy in Ireland. As a result, definite action has been taken and communication opened with the Chancellor of the Exchequer with the view of safeguarding the interests of the Irish pharmacists.

Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR J. FERRALL,

Registrar, Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

Dublin, May 31.

SIR,—If there is any likelihood of chemists developing into State dispensers through the Insurance Bill, now is the time to push forward a strong argument against chemists serving on juries. I can imagine a patient going to a pharmacy and being told that his urgently required medicine could not be handed to him because the registered dispenser was doing his duty to his country at the

quarter sessions in a town perhaps fifty miles away, and can imagine his or her remarks.

Yours, etc.,

LOCAL SECRETARY. (55/33).

SIR,—It would be well were this discussion taken part in by chemists who have had practical experience in the working of the present system under which friendly societies obtain medical attendance and medicine for their members. I observe that gentlemen who know nothing about the Bill by their own confession, and if possible less about retail business, are leading off discussions on the subject, but this is not the sort of thing that is wanted just now, and these platitudinarians would be fully as well employed as listeners. I have had many years' experience of friendly society work in conjunction with medical men, and while I would not pretend for one moment that as a pure business proposition this work pays of itself, it certainly pays very well when you consider the other business that comes with it, and that without it would not come at all. One Society I have in view numbers about 400 members, and the doctor is paid 4s. per member, which includes medicine. He does not dispense, but arranges with me to do that part of the work. On going over a number of prescriptions such as he was in the habit of writing, I agreed to dispense these at an all-round rate of 3d. each, the patient to provide the bottle where a mixture was wanted. If the prescription called for a 6-oz. mixture and a dozen pills, these would reckon as two items, and 6d. would be charged up. The figure, 3d., is very frequently under the actual prime cost of the drugs, but sometimes it is over, and so long as the dispenser's time is not considered, there is, taken as a whole, if no profit, certainly very little loss. The doctor's total fees work out at 80% a year, and my account runs about 5% a quarter, so that I get approximately 1s. per member and the doctor gets 3s. net. It is admitted that these figures pay neither the doctor nor myself, but then practically every member is the head of a family, and his wife and children are in 99 per cent. of the cases attended by the doctor. The prescriptions for all these patients come to me as a matter of course, and they are willingly paid for at the regular tariff, so that what we lose on the swings we gain on the roundabouts. Moreover, doctors tell me that club members pay the bills for attendance on their families more promptly than non-club members of similar standing. I admit that the members of this society are a healthy lot of men, and the doctor is very considerate as regards prescribing. An expensive drug is occasionally prescribed, but I dispense it without a moment's hesitation, well knowing that nothing sooner raises distrust, and would more quickly embroil the doctor with the society than any attempt to evade my obligations. Where you have a society of genuine working-men and a fair-minded doctor and chemist, I am quite sure that the terms suggested—6s. inclusive—would be very fair, 75 per cent. to go to the doctor and 25 per cent. to the chemist. On a society of 400 this would be 90% for attendance and 30% for medicine. A medical friend said the other day, "I don't care who attends the working-man so long as they leave me his wife and children; it is they, not the men, who keep me alive." I am watching the Fifeshire movement with the greatest interest, but I wish to offer a word of warning to the men who are running it. Be very careful lest you ask too much, for there is the greatest possible danger that the co-operative stores may come along here and open dispensaries for their members. What this would mean in Lancashire and other co-operative strongholds it is not difficult to foresee, and once the fashion were set, only too many societies would be eager to follow the example. Will some other chemist who has had practical experience in this class of work favour you with his views?

Yours truly,

M. P. S. (55/90.)

SIR,—The dangers to pharmacists which lurk in Clause 14 of this Bill are visualised by the extract which you gave last week from Clause 59 dealing with the application of the measure to Ireland, which shows that the Bill actually sanctions the principle of passing the pharmacist's door and going to dispensaries for medicines. The extension

of this principle in practice is a menace to pharmacists in Great Britain as well as in Ireland. According to the Bill every friendly society or local health committee "shall also make provision for the supply of proper and sufficient drugs and medicines to insured persons . . ." etc. If this happens there is grave risk that the evils existing under the percentage system will be perpetuated and aggravated through the pressure of keen competition, and with cutting of prices the quality of drugs will be lowered and the patient will suffer. Why should the Chancellor remove this admitted risk from the shoulders of the medical men and place it on those of pharmacists? One way out of this would be such a uniform scale of charges for rich and poor alike as is in vogue in Germany and was illustrated in the *C. & D.* of May 20. As it would be almost impossible to obtain voluntary unanimity in a community where keen competition exists in order to secure contracts, this would be one way out of the difficulty, and pharmacists should see to it that some provision covering this is inserted in the Bill.

There is another point of even more importance—viz., what will happen if prices are regulated by law and dispensing is still limited by contract to the few? In the interests of fair play this ought not to be left to the whim or the power of any society to do. There ought to be the most determined and united action to secure a fair field all round. Medical men have seen the risks that they run if a society is to have the selecting of the medical men, and are combining in the demand that every patient shall be entitled to select his own doctor. Pharmacists ought also to see to it that each insured person shall be free to have his own pharmacist, or, in other words, that every pharmacist shall have his own customers. We ask no more, and should take no less.

While the above points are of vital importance, there is a third that ought also to be insisted upon. In the composition of the health committees to be appointed, no mention is made of pharmacists. It is to say the least of it curious that a body appointed to deal with drugs should have no practical man upon that committee. The status of medical men is recognised, and the insurance commissioners are instructed that in the completion of such committees "at least two of the members so appointed shall be duly qualified medical practitioners." What about the duly qualified pharmacist? It seems to me that all through our position and status have been ignored. It is for every member now to use all the influence he possesses to bring such pressure to bear upon those in power that the points mentioned above shall become law by being incorporated in the Bill.

Yours truly,

BRITISH PHARMACY. (50/68.)

SIR,—I was greatly interested in reading Mr. Crocker's letter in last week's *C. & D.* Evidently he wishes all chemists to share the ideal future life of the working-man and others, and not to be made use of by the State for the benefit of the public at a sweating wage. Quite right. Mr. Crocker certainly shows by the rules he has drawn up the experience he has had, in requiring such hard and fast rules to be made to prevent the abuse and severe pressure of work in the last hour of the day's business which a chemist would be liable to. The special attendance fee is grand; it would teach the public practically the error they have always laboured under, that a doctor is compelled to attend at any time if called upon to do so, and that a chemist is bound to supply medicines at any time on demand, which error would grow if not checked. In the event of our going to the Board of Trade, I would like Mr. Crocker to show on what basis he worked upon in fixing the wages for dispenser, porter and chemist. He should be prepared to do this. I endorse the view—Act in the living present, and form a Chemists' Union, and not trust any Society or Association in existence, to which allusion has been made by Mr. Edwards. I also draw attention to Mr. Holmes's letter, in which he truly says, "Tis victory or death." I hope readers will refer to all these letters in last week's *C. & D.*

Yours truly,

42 Chelsham Road,
Clapham, S.W.

WILLIAM BARRON, Ph.C.

SIR,—There is a point in connection with above to which, as far as I can see, insufficient attention has been drawn. According to the Bill, the scheme will be very largely administered by the friendly societies, and the dispensing is to be separated from the prescribing. There are two ways in which the societies can arrange to get this dispensing done. One is by contract with a local chemist or chemists, and the other is to "run" a dispensary of their own. Probably both methods will come into use, and in the large centres at least we may see the societies opening many more dispensaries. Now, my point is this: I can see no clause in the Bill definitely providing that the dispensing shall be under the supervision of a registered man. Mr. Lloyd George said that he "had no doubt that the societies would make as good a bargain with the chemists as they had done with the doctors," but unless such a clause is inserted in the Bill they need not bargain with the chemist at all; and when they do the chemist will not be in a position in many instances to make even a fair bargain. He cannot bargain much with a society which is not obliged to employ him or his like. What is to prevent the officials of a society (or combination of societies) saying, in effect, to the local chemists, "Well, if one or two of you will not take this job on at this low rate, we shall simply open our own show, put in an unqualified man (perhaps an ex-sergeant compounder), and do without any of you." If such a clause is in the Bill the chemists could reply, "All right, go ahead; open your show. You'll have to have a registered man. He'll cost you a decent salary, and he won't stand sweating. You may be glad before long to let us do it for you at a fair rate." That ex-compounder is not altogether imaginary. Unless such a clause is inserted in the Bill, some old general may get the notion into his head of "Ex-Army compounders as friendly society dispensers." It would have a plausible sound in the ears of a Government Department. If such a clause is inserted, it will be the first step in the recognition by the law that dispensing should be done by registered men, and that would be a big step forward. [This is the law in Ireland.—EDITOR.] It would also mean that openings would be made for many young qualified men whose prospects now are assistantships or competing with one another in single-handed shops. Such a clause need not disturb those men at present employed who though uncertificated have proved competent, but it could be made to apply to all future appointments and contracts. One thing is certain: *There will be an enormous lot of dispensing set free into new channels, and it is "up to" the registered men to get hold of it.* But they must get moving; the Bill is being put through quickly, revolutionary changes are being made almost "in a turn of the hand"; meetings and deputations take time to arrange, and time presses. To my mind the demand for the insertion of a clause enacting that the medicines should be dispensed under the supervision of a registered chemist is the crux of the situation. The question of remuneration can be left to settle itself; there are not so many registered men (or women) compared with the work to be done, and if it is confined to them they should be able to hold out for their price. Also, it is a demand which is clear, simple, and logical, and which the average M.P. can at once grasp, where he will only be confused by, or refuse to be bothered with, elaborate and complex demands *à la* Germany, etc.; but, as I said before, time presses.

Yours very truly,

M. P. WALKER.

Bristol, May 29.

SIR,—The weak point in the Insurance Bill, so far as medicine and pharmacy are concerned, consists in the fact that the whole revolutionary scheme has been formulated without consulting either medical men or pharmacists. We have no feeling against Mr. Lloyd George, and no wish to be unreasonable in regard to any scheme which will benefit the people; but in regard to a scheme which affects us so much in every way we claim the right to be consulted, and we claim reasonable time for consideration of the matter. We do not wish to be driven into opposition until we know exactly what we are opposing, but we will not be jockeyed into acquiescence to please a Chancellor in a hurry. If Mr. Lloyd George must have his Insurance Bill rushed through by August, which appears to be his intention, we are justified in asking him to leave

the clauses applying to medicine and pharmacy over to be dealt with, say, a year hence. Meantime, he must explain to us and treat with us. Neither he nor his permanent staff have the kind of knowledge which would enable them to formulate a scheme of this kind which could be satisfactory to either us or the community concerned. Further, he must know that pharmacy has already suffered so heavily from the prejudice, ignorance, and narrow-mindedness of the permanent official, that it is in no temper to accept any measure having a taint of that petty functionary. How Mr. Lloyd George ever came to think he could formulate any kind of scheme for the socialising of either medicine or pharmacy, or both, without long consultation with the representatives of these professions, much arrangement, and mutual understanding is, I confess, beyond me. Mr. Lloyd George is not here face to face with 600 coroneted gentlemen, who frankly confess that they haven't a leg to stand upon; he is face to face with a very large community, which is backed by moral right and a long record of work well done in the public interest.

It would serve no good purpose to go into the details of the Bill at this stage. Some of the points to be discussed may, however, be mentioned. For instance, what about vested interests in pharmacy? We heard enough about them when we were fighting companies. Has no property any value which has been acquired through personal industry and effort? Many men in business paid big "goodwills"; others have spent years in creating "goodwills." Are these to be confiscated, or will Mr. Lloyd George pay us for them? He cannot be foolish enough to believe that he can put a third part of the population on State-paid medicine without confiscation of vested interests. Then what about guarantees against friendly societies starting dispensaries on their own account? Vague assurances on this head will not meet the case. Another point is this: Are the people to be left to go to the chemist they prefer or must they go where officialdom indicates, and are contracts to be made by competition or is the State to dictate prices? Again, what authority is to decide as to where the services of qualified pharmacists are available and where they are not? We know that in the case of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill we had repeated assurances that no licences would be granted where the services of qualified men were available, and when we complained afterwards that licences were being granted all over the country without regard to qualified men, we were curtly told that licensing was entirely left to the discretion of local authorities. In this matter our charge against the present Government is so heavy as to amount to one of bad faith. Does Mr. Lloyd George think we can be "had" in that way twice? People who have no expert knowledge of these things are lauding his insurance scheme to the skies, but really in so far as it affects us it is so crude as not to amount to a scheme at all. It will take months to formulate a scheme which would be at once workable and just.

Now, how are we to set about impressing our ideas of the case on the Chancellor and others? Let us benefit by past experience. The Poisons and Pharmacy Bill would not have passed if we had insisted on its discussion in the House of Commons. It was because an agreement was come to outside the House of Commons that this most foolish measure became law. I hope we shall not have a repetition of this. We must not be rushed, and everything must be explained most fully to the rank and file before anything is decided on. We wish to treat with the Chancellor certainly, or, rather, we wish to have his system presented to us in a more elaborated form, but the time has not arrived for any deputation to him. It would be better to bring him to the point of arranging a meeting with us. If we had gone on these lines before, disaster would have been avoided. What we need to do just now is to approach every member of the House of Commons with a request that the clauses relating to medicine and pharmacy be blocked, or held up, until our views are ascertained. The House of Commons will never force a revolutionary measure of this kind on two important professions without their acquiescence. I know quite well that many men may be unable to see as I see on this

head, but I ask them to remember that the Pharmaceutical Society has never succeeded in securing a single concession of any kind from any State Department—at least not in our time. We can force a State Department, through the House of Commons, but we can never lead it by gentle means. The whole permanent official mind has a natural turn in the direction of dodging the House of Commons. If it can only succeed in doing that it will talk round a post until—our case is lost.

JAMES REID.

Dumfries.

B.P.C.

SIR.—May I, with your permission, draw attention to the suggestions made by Mr. Wells at the last meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland that any members who wish to visit the Conference in Portsmouth will get reduced fares by *not* applying direct to the companies but as a *body*, through one person? If pharmacists from the South of Ireland, who would wish to travel from Cork to Southampton direct by boat sailing every Saturday evening, would drop me a line, I will see the Cork Steam Packet Co., and learn what reduction we would get from them for the return trip, so that arrangements can be made at once. Yours faithfully,

Cork.

J. W. HARVEY.

The Incorporated Society of Pharmacy Proprietors.

SIR.—Might I call attention to the fact that all unregistered managers and pharmacy proprietors are eligible to become members of the above Society up to the end of the present month only? On and after July 1 no person will be eligible unless he has served a *bona-fide* apprenticeship, and after July 1, 1912, in addition to the above, all applicants will have to pass an examination. Forms of application may be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. A. Dobson, Grove Cottage, Morley. The large certificates will not be ready for issue until the end of the month.

Yours faithfully,

WALTER HUNTRODS (President).

Dispensing Notes.

This section is for the discussion and solution of dispensing problems and prescriptions received by "C. & D." readers. We are always pleased to receive the opinions of readers for publication. "The Art of Dispensing" ("C. & D." Office, 6s.) is the standard book of reference on this subject.

"What is Calcei Carbonas?"

SIR.—Would not "Puzzled" be more correct in using prepared chalk? as precipitated chalk consists of sharp minute crystals which irritate the lining of the stomach, while prepared chalk, being amorphous, does not. I should say use prepared chalk in all prescriptions intended for internal use when "calcei carbonas" is ordered.

Yours faithfully,

A. E. ASHWORTH. (48/29.)

Lin. Potas. Iod. c. Sapone.

R. D. S. (42/31) sends two samples of this liniment. One was made in the proper B.P. method, with the result of a jelly forming immediately the solution was triturated with the potassium iodide. In the second the solution was rubbed well in a mortar alone and formed an excellent cream, but when the potassium iodide was added dissolved in an ounce of reserved water it became stringy. [We find from the samples sent that the soap is at fault. It does not dissolve with the same facility as animal soap of the Pharmacopoeia, and the solution when strong or cool is "stringy," and this condition is exaggerated in the finished liniment. We have separated the fatty acids from the soap. Neither in appearance nor melting-point do they correspond with either of the B.P. soaps. The fatty acids from animal soap when dried form a clean, hard cake, which melts to a clear liquid at about 113° F. Those from "R. D. S.'s" soap, when dried, leave a residue like an emulsion or thin cold cream.]

Phenol and Thymol in Pills.

SIR.—How can the following be made into fair-sized pills?

Ac. carbol. gr. i.
Thymol gr. j.

M. fiat pil. Mitte xij.

Yours truly,

J. F. K. (57/27.)

[This is an example of a type of prescription which has been in fashion for a little time, menthol being more frequently than thymol prescribed with the phenol. Very nice pills

can be easily produced by the following procedure: Place the phenol, thymol, and 12 grains of white beeswax in a short wide-mouthed pill-tube with a well-fitting cork, and stand in hot water till melted, then set the tube in very cold water till the contents have become quite solidified. Transfer to a pill-mortar, add 10 grains of powdered liquorice-root, work gently into a mass, cut, and roll in plenty of powder. Somewhat soft at first, they soon become firmer and retain their shape. In hot weather it may be necessary to use 15 to 18 grains of wax, but less liquorice-powder is then required, and the pills need never exceed 5 grains.]

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information given in this section during the past twelve months. When references are given to past issues, these should be consulted. Back numbers for the past five years can generally be obtained from our office at the published prices. We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles.

C. & S. (45/74).—CHILDREN'S BROWN POWDERS.—The following are two recipes for these:

1.	2.
Pulv. jalapæ ... 3jss.	Pulv. jalapæ ... 3j.
Hydrargyri subchlor. 3j.	Hydrargyri subchlor. 3j.
Pulv. cinnam. co. ... 3ss.	Pulv. rhei ... 3iij.
Dose: 3 to 6 grains.	Sodii bicarb. ... 3ij.
	Pulv. sacchari ... 3j.
	Dose: 4 to 8 grains.

Spongol (44/59).—SPONGES SOILED BY COD-LIVER OIL are best cleaned by using warm solution of caustic alkalies to emulsify the oil, and then washing in several changes of soap and water to remove the cod-liver oil soap.

F. H. G. (49/5).—NURSERY HAIR-LOTION.—The following is a capital lotion for nits in children's heads:

Stavesacre-seeds, in rough powder	3ij.
Acetic acid	3j.
Water	3xvj.

Boil for ten minutes in a covered vessel, set aside till cold; then add

Rectified spirit	5ij.
Oil of geranium	miij.
Oil of lavender	miij.
Oil of lemon	miiv.

Filter, and add

Glycerin	3j.
Water to	Oj.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," June 15, 1861.

The Right to Prescribe.

To the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

SIR,—My attention has been particularly directed to a letter of your correspondent, "J. B.," in your April number, on the right of chemists to prescribe. I consider that the interference with this right, which has been enjoyed from time immemorial, is unjust to the chemist and productive of great inconvenience to the public; yet I fear our friend is under a delusion, to suppose that that right is still preserved to us; I believe it is not. It is true that the Apothecaries Act of 1815 provides that it should not prejudice or in any way affect the business of a chemist and druggist in the buying, preparing, compounding, dispensing, etc., but there have been several actions maintained against chemists for prescribing. I refer you more particularly to two cases—one, that of "Dixon v. Bell," where the chemist could not recover his debt because he had prescribed illegally; and the other, that of "The Apothecaries' Company v. Broadbent," where an action was brought against a chemist for prescribing behind his own counter. . . . But to revert to the subject in question, "the right of chemists to prescribe." If they have lost that right, what should be done to restore it to them? Surely it is high time that some United Society of Chemists and Druggists was formed; and I hope every chemist in the kingdom will feel it is his duty and interest to join at once, without delay, the one that is now organised. This is a day of registration; why not let the chemists and druggists be registered as such, and if the public, from necessitous motives of economy, or from choice, think proper to employ them as doctors in slight cases of illness, what cause could there be for complaint? . . .

I enclose my card, and subscribe myself

AN OLD PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST.

EXCHANGE COLUMN

FOR DISPOSAL.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

WHAT offers for 1 oz. strychnina, 1 oz. cocaina, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. codeina, 1 oz. atropina (Smiths), $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. heroin hydrochloride? Apply 41/38, Office of this Paper.

DRUGS for sale.—Rad. ipec. 1 lb.; fol. buchu 1 lb.; rad. spigelia 1 lb.; fol. belladon 2 lb.; lupulin 2 lb.; gum trag., alb. lump 2 lb.; all in perfect condition. What offers for lot, carriage and packing free; part sold. Apply STANDING'S, Chemists, Manchester.

OPTICAL AND PHOTOGRAPHIC.

OPTICAL trial case and sundries; cost over £14; £10, carriage paid. 37/37, Office of this Paper.

TENDER for library of 10,000 lantern slides, mechanicals, etc., in good order; can be had separately. Apply, 36/30, Office of this Paper.

TICKA camera, 8s. 6d., for 4s.; 30s. Ensignette, 20s.; $\frac{1}{2}$ -plate glass-plate Kodak, with 4 double slides, roll holder, leather case, telescopic tripod, cost over £8, take £2; Mem Frena and case, cost over £5, 15s.; POP postcards, 1,000 12s. 6d. MARTIN, Chemist, Southampton.

OPTICAL goods for sale.—Testing case holding 150 lenses, cost £16; a two-drawer No. 1 eye lens case, holds 2 gross lenses, cost 40s.; glass sign by B. Sign Co., in mahogany frame, 10 ft. 7 in. by 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., Eye Sight Testing Rooms in gold brilliant letters, 5 in. long and $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, on black ground, cost 60s.; delivery free on receipt of best offer. Apply 60/16, Office of this Paper.

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES.

3 DOZEN 1s. 9d. ovaltine; 3 dozen 13d. bromo seltzer; accept half retail price, carriage paid. 60/106, Office of this Paper.

4 DOZEN 6d. Rubwel 2s. 10d. per dozen; 5 dozen "Weirs" porous plasters, 6s. per dozen; carriage paid. ANDERSON, Pharmacist, Heaton Moor, Stockport.

TWENTY gross pil. emmenagogue, No. 428, pink coated (Cox) gr. v.; 8d. gross, or exchange for 2s. 9d. Beecham's. "PHARMACIST," 348 Gloucester Road, Bishopston, Bristol.

SHOP FITTINGS.

FOR sale, outside red lamp as Maw's illustrated catalogue, page 276, with complete fixings; first reasonable offer. 59/29, Office of this Paper.

NATIONAL cash register, nearly new, listed at £30; also glass shelves, standards, framed mirrors for window, small wall-case, bent-glass counter-case; any saleable goods taken in part exchange, whole or part. MILLING, Chester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SMALL soda fountain, in good condition, all accessories; what offers? EVANS, Chemist, Ramsgate.

100 GROSS tins, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ dram, $\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep; need label to cover name; what offers, or exchange? MOODY, Chemist, Driffield.

JOB Line.—10 doz. cream celluloid puff-boxes, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 2s. 9d. doz., 4 doz. 10s., sample 3d., post free. BROOKS, Chemist, Hornsey, N. TYPEWRITER (Oliver), visible writing, guaranteed good as new; only £11 15s. (maker's price £23). F. E. WAR, Trowbridge, Wilts.

LAROLA, 3 doz. 1s., 2 doz. 6d., 2 doz. 1s. 6d. soap, a third dis.; 5 lb. menthol, 15s. lb.; 5 lb. P.D. syr. trif. co., 10s.; 16 lb. ext. sarzæ co. nov., 5s. lb.; 5 lb. liq. violæ pro syr., 7s. 6d.; samples free; O'Brien's receipt or bonus check giving till, cost £8 8s., equal to new, price £4 4s. W. HUNTRODS, Holbeck Moor, Leeds.

FOR sale, "Consol" combined aerator and syphon filler, with combination reducing valve, pressure gauge, safety regulator, Berkefeld filter (earthenware), water supply tank, grit arrester, automatic syrup pump, with glass measuring barrel, all in splendid condition; cost £72; price £50; reason for selling, purchasing large machinery plant. J. & J. THOMPSON & Co., Ltd., 192 Manchester Street, Oldham.

WANTED.

SHOP rounds and jars in good condition. EVANS, Margate. NATIONAL cash register, No. 422. State lowest cash price, MILLING, Chester.

PERSONAL weighing-machine, as Maw's 475 P.; good condition; cheap. JEFFREY, Cheltenham.

PLATINUM; any form or quantity; highest price remitted. ROWSELL, 11 Crebor Street, Dulwich.

A GOOD recipe for black-lead paste and also block black lead. Price and sample, GAMLEN, Chemist, York Road, West Hartlepool.

OPTICAL books; Minor, Major Chemists' books; send prepaid for valuation; cash offers per return. GOWER, Bookseller, Waterloo Liverpool.

COMPLETE set of shop rounds, pill machine, 5 grs., and mortars; must be in good condition, for fitting up pharmacy. "C. W.," 36 Fauconberg Road, Chiswick, W.

COMPLETE set stock bottles, ointment and pill jars; must be in good condition; particulars on pattern of labels, lowest price, etc.; also glass counter-case, about 9 ft. long. "SALOL," Deepdene, Marlborough Avenue, Hull.

FOR Manchester district.—Soda fountain accessories, 2 5 gall. or 1 10 gall. cylinder with two way tap; phosphate shakers, syrup bottles, lemon squeezer, and tumbler washer, etc., etc.; lowest price. 60/016, Office of this Paper.

SMALL show-cases, with sets artificial teeth; will exchange Wood's "Therapeutics, etc." (cost 18s.), White & Martin's "Venereal Diseases" (cost 25s.), Cassell's "Lawyer," 3 vols. (cost 22s. 6d.), all new; or sell cash. Offers to 37/39, Office of this Paper.

WESTMINSTER WISDOM.

The Week in Parliament.

DOCTOR'S 3/ TELEPHONE.

The Postmaster-General announced in the House of Commons on May 26 that rural doctors will be allowed to participate in the new scheme of cheap telephones for farmers. Where five subscribers unite a service can be had for 3/ a year each.

PATENT MEDICINES AND THEIR WARRANTY.

A further meeting of the Parliamentary Food Reform Committee was held on Tuesday, May 30, at the House of Commons, Mr. J. E. Fletcher, M.P., presiding. The question of patent and proprietary medicines was again under consideration, and it was decided to make representations to the British Medical Association and the Pharmaceutical Society for an expression of their views on the matter. The point urged is that the label on all patent medicines should be a warranty as to the nature of the ingredients offered for sale. If the two bodies above-mentioned are in accord, a Bill would be introduced during the present session, although there is no probability of any progress being made this year.

GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL AND THE SANDOW INSTITUTE.

On Thursday (as we go to press) Mr. O. Locker-Lampson, M.P., is asking the Prime Minister whether his attention has been drawn to the recent decision of the General Medical Council in regard to certain medical practitioners connected with the Sandow Institute, and whether he will consider the advisability of appointing a Royal Commission to consider the whole question of the procedure and powers possessed by the General Medical Council.

Mr. Asquith replied that he did not see sufficient reason for instituting such an inquiry.

Mr. Locker-Lampson then asked whether the Prime Minister is aware that the General Medical Council is the only body with disciplinary powers from whose decisions there is no appeal, and whether the virtual combination of the functions of prosecutor, judge, and jury which that body possesses is consistent with the principles of justice.

Mr. Asquith replied that he did not agree with the hon. gentleman's representations.

POISONING FATALITIES.

NINE deaths from poisoning have been reported since our issue of last week.

Carbolic Acid.—At New Brighton, Margaret Isobel Liddell (40), married woman, killed herself by throwing herself from a ferry-boat into the Mersey. Before doing so she had swallowed the contents of a bottle of carbolic acid.

Salt of Lemon caused the death of the wife (40) of Mr. R. Bates, dental surgeon, Birkenhead, whose body was found in a wood near Rhydymwyn, Flint. Near by was a band-bag containing a packet of salts of lemon and a large bottle, unopened, marked "Poison," and labelled "Phenate of Soda Solution." There was evidence that deceased had poisoned herself with salt of lemon.—At Wimbledon Ellen M. H. Old (27), milliner, died from the effects of taking salt of lemon.

Salt of Sorrel obtained from an old chemical laboratory at the Wallasey Grammar School caused the death of ex-Company Sergt.-Major Jos. Measham, school porter, who died in the Central Hospital, Liscard.

Spirit of Salt.—An unknown man died at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, from spirit of salt poisoning.—A Strood labourer named William Farrell (42) poisoned himself with the same corrosive fluid. At the inquest, Mr. J. Waldon, chemist, manager to Messrs. Oster & Co., Strood, deposed that he had known deceased as a customer for about eighteen months. He had purchased spirit of salt on two occasions, 2 oz. each time being supplied for soldering purposes. Witness thought it was in October or November last year he served deceased with the last lot. He wanted to purchase some laudanum just before Easter. He complained of chronic

diarrhoea, and asked for sixpennyworth of laudanum or the greatest quantity he could have. Witness noticed he was depressed, and was a little suspicious. He therefore served him with a coloured preparation, flavoured with a little alcohol, which was quite harmless, at the same time labelling the bottle "Laudanum," and heard nothing more of him for some time.

Strychnine.—At Castlewellan, Miss Murray, a draper, drank strychnine solution after returning from Mass, and died a few minutes later.—At the inquest on Owen Robert Hughes (33), vanman, who died from strychnine-poisoning, the report of the county analyst (Mr. W. F. Lowe) stated that the stomach contents would contain rather more than $\frac{1}{4}$ grain of the alkaloid. The Coroner said that the analysis of the contents of a bottle found in deceased's possession had not yet been completed. It was, however, perfectly clear that the bottle contained strychnine, because it was a brownish fluid, and apparently similar to the brown fluid discovered in the stomach of the deceased. The jury found that death was due to an overdose of strychnine, self-administered. The Coroner remarked that when he obtained the analyst's report upon the contents of the bottle he intended to communicate with the Home Office with the view of having, if possible, further restrictions placed upon the sale of these compound drugs, by which people could very easily take their lives. This was the second inquest he had held where death had been caused by taking compounded drugs.

Kind not Stated.—John James Piper (28), Post-office employee, who was found dead in a lavatory at the General Post-office, died from the shock of taking poison. Deceased had cut his throat in six places and taken an irritant poison used in electric batteries (? potassium bichromate and sulphuric acid).

COMING EVENTS.

This section of the "C. & D." is reserved for advance notices of meetings or other events which are sent to the Editor by Wednesday of the week before the meetings, etc., occur.

Tuesday, June 6.

Punbridge Wells Association of Pharmacists, 33 Mount Pleasant, at 9 P.M. Election of officers and discussion on the National Insurance Bill.

Wednesday, June 7.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., at 11 A.M. Council meeting.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at 3 P.M. Council meeting.

Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association. Quarterly meeting, distribution of prizes to School of Pharmacy students, and address by Mr. J. F. Tocher.

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, 36 York Place, at 8.30 P.M. Lecture by Mr. E. J. Brown and Demonstration by Mr. J. R. Hill.

Thursday, June 8.

West Ham Association of Pharmacists, Earlham Hall, Forest Gate, London, E., at 3 P.M. Consideration of the National Insurance Bill.

Croydon Pharmacists' Association. Annual meeting.

Friday, June 9.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, London, W., at 9 P.M. Professor Svante Arrhenius on "Applications of Physical Chemistry to the Doctrine of Immunity."

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, at 6 A.M. Botanical excursion to Blackford Hill.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Association, 94 West Regent Street, Glasgow, at 10.30 P.M. Meeting, open to all chemists, to discuss the National Insurance Bill.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY.—The Faraday lecture will be delivered in the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, London, W., on June 14, at 8 P.M. The lecturer is Professor Theodore W. Richards, and the subject "The Fundamental Properties of the Elements."

THAMES VALLEY, WESTERN AND CROYDON PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION.—The joint river-excursion has been fixed for July 12. It is proposed to leave Reading at 10.30 for Windsor, which will be reached at 8 P.M. Luncheon will be served at Henley. The Secretaries of the Associations will furnish further details.

BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.—The Portsmouth meeting opens on Monday evening, July 24, by a reception at the Town Hall, and the Conference will be held on July 25 and 26, closing on July 27, after which an excursion will be made to the Isle of Wight. A fuller programme was printed in the *C. & D.*, May 20, index folio 741. Tickets to cover the entire programme, 21s., may be had from Mr. T. O. Barlow, Hon. Local Secretary, 2 Palmerston Road, Southsea.

PATENT SPECIFICATIONS.

Printed copies of the following specifications are on sale (8d. each) at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, W.C., a fortnight after the notice of acceptance has appeared in the "Official Journal" (Patents) of the given dates. Persons desirous of opposing the grant of a patent must do so in the prescribed form within two months from the date of the "Journal" in which the notice appeared.

Specifications Accepted.

April 12, 1911.

PURIFYING GAS AND RECOVERING RESIDUES. 20245/10. Falding & Cathcart.

REMOVING INCrustation FROM BOILER-TUBES. 21668/10. De Sutter.

PRODUCTION OF AIR-GAS. 22282/10. Krause.

TRIAL-FRAMES FOR BI-FOCAL GLASSES. 22949/10. Blanchard.

SEPARATION OF NITROGEN FROM AIR. 24413/10. Heys. (Nitrogen Co.)

RÖNTGEN-RAY AND LIKE ELECTRO-MEDICAL PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS. 25670/11. Bigge & Butt.

SPECTACLE-LENS GRINDING-MACHINE. 27013/10. Eckstein & Seyboth & Co.

THERAPEUTIC INJECTING APPARATUS. 27965/10. Meyer & Nathan.

VAPORISING APPARATUS FOR DISINFECTING AND LIKE PURPOSES. 28279/10. Schwarzhaupt.

MANUFACTURE OF SANTALOL AND MENTHOL ETHERS. 2344/11. Zimmermann. (Chemische Fabrik auf Actien vorm. E. Schering.)

April 20, 1911.

SAFETY-DEVICES IN RELATION TO THE USE OR CONSUMPTION OF EXPLOSIVE OR INFLAMMABLE FLUIDS. 856/10. Maude, James & Thorp.

CATTLE-BRANDING INSTRUMENTS. 6000/10. Van Wart.

PAINT FOR GOLF-BALLS. 8270/10. Craven.

INFANTS' FEEDING-BOTTLES. 8627/10. Hawthorne.

BROWN LEATHER CLEANING COMPOSITION. 12082/10. Jack & Herson.

DEVULCANISING INDIARUBBER. 14251/10. Banchieri.

SOLUBLE PROTEIN AND PRODUCTION FROM INSOLUBLE PROTEIN. 14611/10. Vasey.

COLOUR-SCREENS FOR PHOTOGRAPHY. 19554/10. Ruth.

PURIFYING CRUDE PETROLEUM, ETC. 20409/10. Taylor.

MANUFACTURE OF ACID PHOSPHATES AND PHOSPHORIC ACID. 21268/10. Weaver Refining Co. & Neill.

SURGICAL APPLIANCES SUCH AS PORTABLE URINALS. 21755/10. Sears.

OBTAINING ALCOHOL FROM WOOL-FAT. 22605/10. Morgenstern.

MANUFACTURE OF HYDROGEN PEROXIDE. 23158/10. Pietzsch & Adolph.

CELLULOSE ESTERS OF FATTY ACIDS. 24382/10. Ellis. (Chemische Fabrik von Heyden Akt.-Ges.)

MANUFACTURE OF O-NITRO-BENZALDEHYDE. 24872/10 Ellis. (Soc. Chimique des Usines du Rhône Anciennement Gilliard, P. Monnet et Cartier.)

PLATINUM ALLOYS. 29723/10. Johnson. (W. C. Heraeus, Ges.)

CONTAINERS FOR POWDERS, ETC. 141/11. Parke, Davis & Co. & Nightingale.

April 26, 1911.

APPARATUS FOR DEVELOPING AND INDICATING THE ACTION OF THE RESPIRATORY ORGANS. 9259/10. Tamini.

MEDICAL INHALERS. 9583/10. Weller & Claudius Ash, Sons & Co.

WATERPROOFING WOOD. 9608/10. Lake. (Welin, Davit & Lane & De Groot Co.)

MANUFACTURE OF SULPHURIC ACID. 9869/10. Justice. (Duron & Hartmann.)

REGULATING CHANGES IN ORGANIC BODIES DUE TO AUTO-INTOXICATION AND POLYMERISATION. 10361/10. Ostwald & Ostwald.

MANICURE-FILES. 11623/10. Betjemann.

INFANTS' SOOTHERS. 13730/10. Mincher.

SPRAY-PRODUCER. 17793/10. Andreas & Wolf.

ABDOMINAL SUPPORTS. 21103/10. Curtis.

MANUFACTURE OF HORN-SUBSTITUTES FROM CASEIN. 21750/10. Bartels.

PURIFICATION OF MAGNESIUM AND MAGNESIUM ALLOYS. 22016/10. Johnson. (Chemische Fabrik Griesheim-Electron.)

PRODUCTION OF ALKALOIDS FROM POPPY, ETC. 24865/10. Heinrich.

COLLAPSIBLE TOOTH-BRUSH. 24891/10. Trayne.

RUPTURE TRUSSES. 25392/10. Löwy.

SALTS OF HALOGENISED FATTY ACIDS OF HIGH MOLECULAR WEIGHT. 23871/10. Ges. für Chemische Industrie in Basel.

OZONISER. 447/11. Linder.

MUSTARD APPETISER. 1152/11. Gorski.

VACUUM WALLED BOTTLES. 1910/11. Dommel.
COMBINED EAR-TUBE AND OPERA-GLASS. 5585/11. Baum.

May 3, 1911.

REDUCTION OF METALS FROM THEIR OXIDES. 7303/10. Harden.
ALCOHOL A. ANIMAL FOOD FROM POTATOES. 9980/10. Steffen.
SUGARED CAKES FOR FEEDING CATTLE. 9987/10. Fabre.
APPARATUS FOR LIFTING INVALIDS IN BED. 12198/10. Mickel-
thwait.

COLOUR-PHOTOGRAPHY ON PAPER FROM ONE PLATE. 12252/10.
Sury.

TREATMENT OF LIQUIDS BY ULTRA-VIOLET RAYS. 12947/10.
Henri, Helbronner & Von Recklinghausen.

POWDER-SURFACED TOILET-PAPERS. 13433/10. Graham.

THERAPEUTIC SUBSTANCE. 13756/10. Plimmer.

PRODUCTS FOR COMBATING ILLNESS. 13842/10. Belart.

TOILET-ROLLS. 20467/10. Parsons.

PROTECTING TREES AGAINST INSECTS. 20799/10. Lack &
Chivers & Sons, Ltd.

PRODUCING NITRIC OXIDE FROM MIXTURES OF NITROGEN AND
OXYGEN. 22319/10. Salpetersaure Industrie Ges.

INTENSIFYING SILVER-SALT PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES. 25751/10.
Soc. Anon. des Plaques et Papiers Photographiques. A.
Lumière et ses fils.

MERCURIAL COMPOUNDS OF CARBOXYLIC ACID ESTERS.
27049/10. Schrauth & Schoeller.

MANUFACTURE OF NITRIC ACID. 403/11. Friderich.

MANUFACTURE OF YOHIMBINE PRODUCTS. 877/11. Muller.

FIRE-EXTINGUISHING COMPOUND. 4574/11. Graham &
Graham.

TOOTH-POWDER CONTAINERS. 6767/11. Hetherington.

May 10, 1911.

ELECTROLYTIC PRODUCTION OF SODIUM, ETC. 11175/10.
Seward, Von Kugelgen & Von Bidder.

CLINICAL MANOMETER FOR DETERMINING BLOOD-PRESSURE.
11586/10. Sterling.

PRESERVATION OF SURGICAL APPLIANCES IN STERILISED CON-
DITION. 15724/10. Wiegand.

SAUCE. 16391/10. Preston, Tyler & Tyler.

APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURE OF ANIMAL FOOD. 20024/10.
Spratts Patent, Ltd., and Franklyn.

HYPODERMIC NEEDLES. 20631/10. Bridger.

REMEDY FOR TREATMENT OF INDIGESTION, ETC. 26024/10.
Carmichael.

APPARATUS FOR SUBLIMING CAMPHOR. 27868/10. Soc. Dar-
resse frères & Dupont.

CONCENTRATING ACETIC ACID. 23839/10. Behrens.

MANUFACTURE OF NITRIC ACID. 319/11. Friderich.

MANUFACTURE OF HYDRO-CINCHONA ALKALOIDS. 569/11. Ver-
einigte Chinafabriken Zimmer & Co., Ges.

APPARATUS FOR PREPARING BLEACHING AND DISINFECTING
SOLUTION. 1941/11. Summer.

May 17, 1911.

TEA ESSENCE. 11310/10. Pay.

DAYLIGHT-DEVELOPING OF COLOUR-PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATES.
11634/10. Timms.

MANUFACTURE OF AMMONIA. 13097/10 and 20127/10. John-
son (Badische Anilin & Soda Fabrik.)

TREATMENT OF LIQUIDS WITH OXYGEN OR OZONE. 14187/10.
Saint-Martin.

APPARATUS FOR TREATING BODIES WITH RADIO-ACTIVE EMISSIONS.
18460/10. Bock.

MEDICINAL SOAPS. 19150/10. Newton. (Farbenfabriken
vorm F. Bayer & Co.)

FEEDING-BOTTLES. 20577/10. Hardcastle & Baylis.

PROCESS FOR SCENTING SOAPS. 23117/10. Janousek.

PRESERVATION OF MILK. 23676/10. Birney.

ANTI-FOULING PAINTS. 23752/10. Fabrique de Vernis et
Produits Chimiques Soc. Anon.

SURGICAL TAMPON INTRODUCER. 24977/10. Krull.

PASTEURISING APPARATUS. 26064/10. Wojek.

ILLUMINATING DEVICES FOR DENTAL, ETC., USES. 29595/11.
Martin & Golden.

PRESERVATION OF MILK. 1122/11. Pusey & Fleming.

X-RAY BULBS. 6833/11. Barret & Gaiffe.

ALBUMEN FROM JAPANESE SOJA. 9478/11. Deutsche Milch-
werke Dr. Arthur Sauer.

May 24, 1911.

IMPREGNATED SOCKS FOR FETID FEET. 8023/10. Pfeffer &
Pfeffling.

MANUFACTURE OF PAPER COATED WITH EMERY, ETC. 14200/10.
Von Redwirtz.

DESTROYING BACTERIA IN WATER-SUPPLY SYSTEMS. 14605/10.
Henri, Helbronner & Von Recklinghausen.

PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR LIQUEFYING CARBONIC ACID.
19336/10. Hildebrand.

DISINFECTING-LAMP. 20385/10. Sharratt.

CONSTRUCTION OF SHAVING-BRUSHES. 23410/10. Britton.

MANUFACTURE OF HYDROGEN PEROXIDE. 25646/10. Oester-
reichische Chemische Werke Akt.-Ges. & Lowenstein.

BAKING-POWDER. 842/11. Oetker.

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CLINICAL THERMOMETER-CASES. 2065/11. Green.
FURNITURE AND PLATE POLISH. 3834/11. Buckland.
LIQUID ROUGE-COMPOUND. 5794/11. Hudson.

May 31, 1911.

SURGICAL AND MEDICAL APPLIANCES. 12555/10. Grahame.
PRODUCING SOLUTIONS OF RESINS, ETC. 12633/10. Hesse.
EXTRACTING RESIN OIL FROM WOOD. 13123/10. Ljubarski.
PRODUCTION OF POLY-GLYCERINS. 15829/10. Boulé. (Fleming.)
MOULDED TABLETS OF DESICCATED TOILET-SOAP. 16278/10. Kett & Oppenheimer, Son & Co.
NON-ALCOHOLIC EXTRACTS FOR LIQUEURS. 16857/10. Zwergel.
EMBROCATION. 20547/10. Munn.
PAINT AND VARNISH REMOVER. 26284/10. Pire.
ELECTROLYTIC MANUFACTURE OF GLYCOLIC ACID. 26546/10. Johnson. (Deutsche Gold and Silber Scheide Anstalt vorm. Roessler.)
SUBSTANCE FOR RENDERING CEMENT WATERPROOF. 30091/10. Deutsche Rekord Cement Werke, J. Krumpelmann & Co.
APPARATUS FOR DISTILLING PURE WATER AND COMBINING SAME WITH OXYGEN. 30247/10. Pearson.
BED-PANS. 693/11. Houdard.
DETERGENT COMPOUND. 3880/11. Haddan. (Thorne.)
PREPARATION OF DUCTILE MOLYBDENUM. 4159/11. Hyde.
BED-URINALS. 8921/11. Ross.

Specifications Open for Inspection before Acceptance.

THERAPEUTIC INJECTING-APPARATUS. 27965/10. Meyer & Nathan.
PRODUCING AMMONIA AND ITS COMPONENTS. 5232/11. Elektrochemische Werke Ges.
PURIFYING LIQUIDS CONTAINING ALBUMEN. 5339/11. Martin, Bartholomew & Schaaf.
CRUDE-OIL SOAP AND SOAP-LYE. 14942/10. Cassel.
BED-PANS. 692/11. Houdard.
PRODUCTION OF STERILISING-AGENTS. 4127/11. Otto.
SPINAL SUPPORTS. 5625/11. Haas.
DETERGENT COMPOSITION FOR USE WITH SEA-WATER. 6161/10. Reisdorff & Soulier.
TOOTH-BRUSHES. 5471/11. Nuyts.
MANUFACTURE OF NITROPHENYL-NITROMETHANES, HOMOLOGUES, AND DERIVATIVES. 6076/11. Soc. Chimique des Usines du Rhône Anciennement Gilliard. P. Monnet et Cartier.
CONDENSATION PRODUCTS OF PHENOLS AND FORMALDEHYDE. 6429/11. Bakelite Ges.
PHOTOGRAPHIC OBJECTIVES. 4849/11. Carl Zeiss.
SEPARATION OF ZINC FROM ZINC SULPHATE SOLUTION. 5967/11. Namekawa, Miyazawa, Miyabara & Emura.
MANUFACTURE OF DIMETHYL-PHENYL-BENZYL-AMMONIUM DISULPHONIC ACID. 7204/11. Farbwerke vorm. Meister, Lucius & Brüning.
PRODUCTION OF OIL-COLOURS. 28553/10. Meurant.
ARTIFICIAL CAOUTCHOUC. 6540/11. Farbenfabriken vorm. F. Bayer & Co.
PROCESS FOR DETOXICATING AND PURIFYING TOBACCO-SMOKE. 7227/11. Parant.
CONTINUOUS EVAPORATION, ETC., OF LIQUIDS IN VACUO. 7391/11. Crolbois.
RECOVERY OF NITROGEN FROM CERTAIN RESIDUAL LIQUIDS. 7394/11. Watrigant.
MASSAGING APPARATUS. 7396/10. McCarthy.
DYEING HAIRS, FURS, ETC. 18920/10. Akt.-Ges. für Anilin-Fabrikation.
MANUFACTURE OF ULTRAMARINE. 7271/11. Luciani.
MANUFACTURE OF POLYCHROME PHOTOGRAPHIC SCREENS. 8153/11. Soc. Anon. des Plaques et Papiers Photographiques A Lumière et ses fils.
APPLYING WAX TO FLOORS. 8562/11. Dauphin.
ARTIFICIAL INDIARUBBER FROM SOYA OIL. 9045/11. Sauer & Gossel.
PREPARATION OF SUPEROXIDES OF THE ALKALI EARTHS. 8503/11. Bergius.
PRODUCING ALBUMEN FROM JAPANESE SOJA. 9478/11. Deutsche Milchwerke (Dr. Arthur Sauer).
SURGICAL APPARATUS FOR DRYING WOUNDS. 9561/11. Hocke.
MANUFACTURE OF SOLID CAMPHENE OR CAMPHOR FREE FROM CHLORINE. 11029/11. Weitz.
NEW COMPOUNDS FROM BLOOD. 11736/11. Scheitlin.
DISINFECTING APPARATUS. 12142/11. Pardagi.

HOLIDAY FUND FRAUD.—At the Central Criminal Court on May 27, Henry J. Cook (31) was sentenced to four months' imprisonment in the second division for converting 3l. 14s. to his own use of the money entrusted to him as joint-secretary to the holiday fund of Messrs. May & Baker, Ltd., manufacturing chemists, Battersea (C. & D., May 13, index folio 689).

OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

Banning Cocaine.—There has been a great deal of anti-narcotic sentiment generated in this country of late years. One of the most recent manifestations of this is a movement to omit coca and other habit-forming drugs from the compound preparations of the Pharmacopœia and the National Formulary. Some of the branches of the A.P.A. have been discussing the subject, and one of them, the Philadelphia branch, has already passed a resolution favouring this change.

Restricting Competition.—The pharmacists of Indiana have achieved quite a triumph in having a law passed prohibiting other than chemists from preparing, dispensing, or selling any sort of medicine within two miles of a drug-store. This means that pharmacists will have unqualified competition only in the rural districts where there is too little business to support chemists' shops. Indirectly this is a blow at the dispensing doctors in the populous centres, but it remains to be seen whether in this respect the law will be observed.

Aspirin Patent.—The Farbenfabriken of Elberfeld Co. has satisfactorily proved its right to a monopoly of the sale of acetyl salicylic acid under the name of Aspirin or any other title. One Robert J. Pierce, of New York City, violated an injunction by selling a product other than that made by the Farbenfabriken of Elberfeld Co., and he has been fined \$500 for contempt of court. A number of manufacturers and retailers who assumed that they had a right to sell the chemical under some other name than Aspirin are now satisfied that the right does not exist.

Examination Exemptions.—Two striking pieces of reactionary legislation have just been enacted in the State of Tennessee. One makes full registered pharmacists of all assistants who have served an apprenticeship of five years in a drug-store, and the other allows physicians in towns having fewer than 2,000 inhabitants to practise pharmacy without subjecting themselves to the customary State board examinations. The pharmacists of Tennessee must have been asleep when these bills were passing through the legislature. They are now aroused, but it will take another year and a big fight to repeal the measures.

A Constitutional Question.—The constitutionality of the national Food and Drugs Act has been upheld in the Lehn & Fink case. The defendants claimed that the law was unconstitutional in that Congress, in making official standards of the National Formulary and the United States Pharmacopœia, had delegated its law-making functions to private publishers. The Court held, however, that Congress had simply declared that if a product pretended to be pharmacopœial it *must* be pharmacopœial—in other words, that there must be no misrepresentation. This decision has caused a great deal of relief all along the line.

The Working Day.—Pharmacy assistants are very much interested in endeavouring to cut down the length of the working day. Their new organisation, the National Association of Pharmacologists, has caused measures to be introduced into several State legislatures prohibiting assistants from working daily for a period exceeding ten hours, and apprentices longer than twelve hours. The assistants are pushing these bills with a good deal of vigour, although in some States the master pharmacists are opposing them with equal energy.

Compulsory Curriculum.—The movement in favour of a compulsory curriculum has failed of any progress during the recent sessions of the various State Legislatures. Bills establishing the graduation prerequisite for proprietors of shops were introduced in the States of Illinois, Washington, and California. In all three cases, however, the Bills were killed chiefly from a lack of adequate support among the chemists themselves. So far only four States have made graduation in pharmacy compulsory, and apparently the movement is not to grow until a greater measure of pharmaceutical sentiment has been developed in its favour.

House-to-House Sampling.—One of the harmful practices indulged in by the proprietary-medicine manufacturers of this country is the promiscuous distribution of samples of their preparations at the houses of private residences. Children often pick up these specimens and eat them through ignorance, with the result that some deaths have been traced to this cause. A law has now been enacted in the State of Ohio prohibiting this method of sampling. The Bill was drawn up by the new organisation of assistants known as the National Association of Pharmacologists, and several other measures have already been fostered by the same body. Among them is a type of Bill restricting the labour of assistants to a ten-hour work-day. Considerable opposition, however, has developed to this Bill among the pharmacists themselves.

